* ("Living on the Threshold"). Takako Shimura's previous series in Comic Beam.

Photo of the Author

放浪息子

Hourou*musuko by Takako Shimura

1

BEAM COMIX

志村貴子

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Hourou*musuko by Takako Shimura

"Shikii no Juunin" Promotional Manga

放浪息子 1

Hourou musuko

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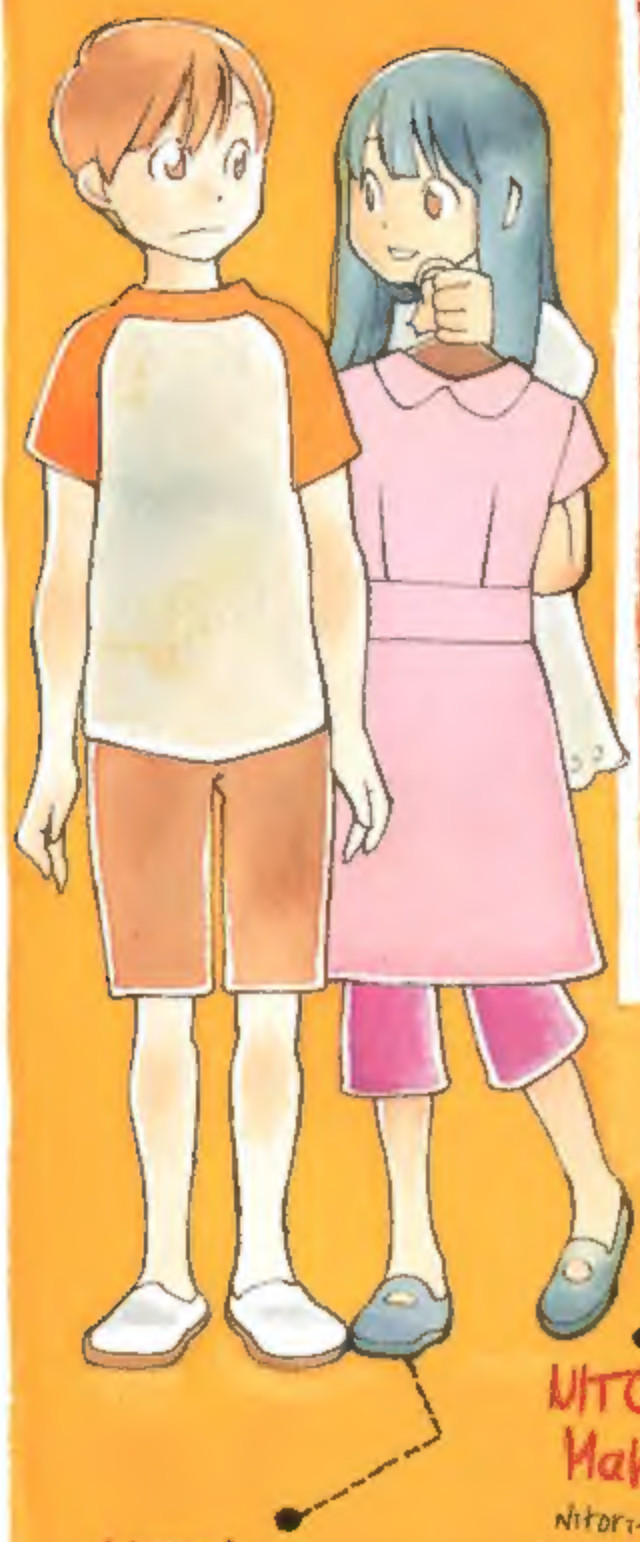


CHIBA Saori

Nitori-kun's classmate. She finds some of the other girls to be annoying, and isn't always good at dealing with her feelings. She recently became a Christian.

NITORI Shuuichi

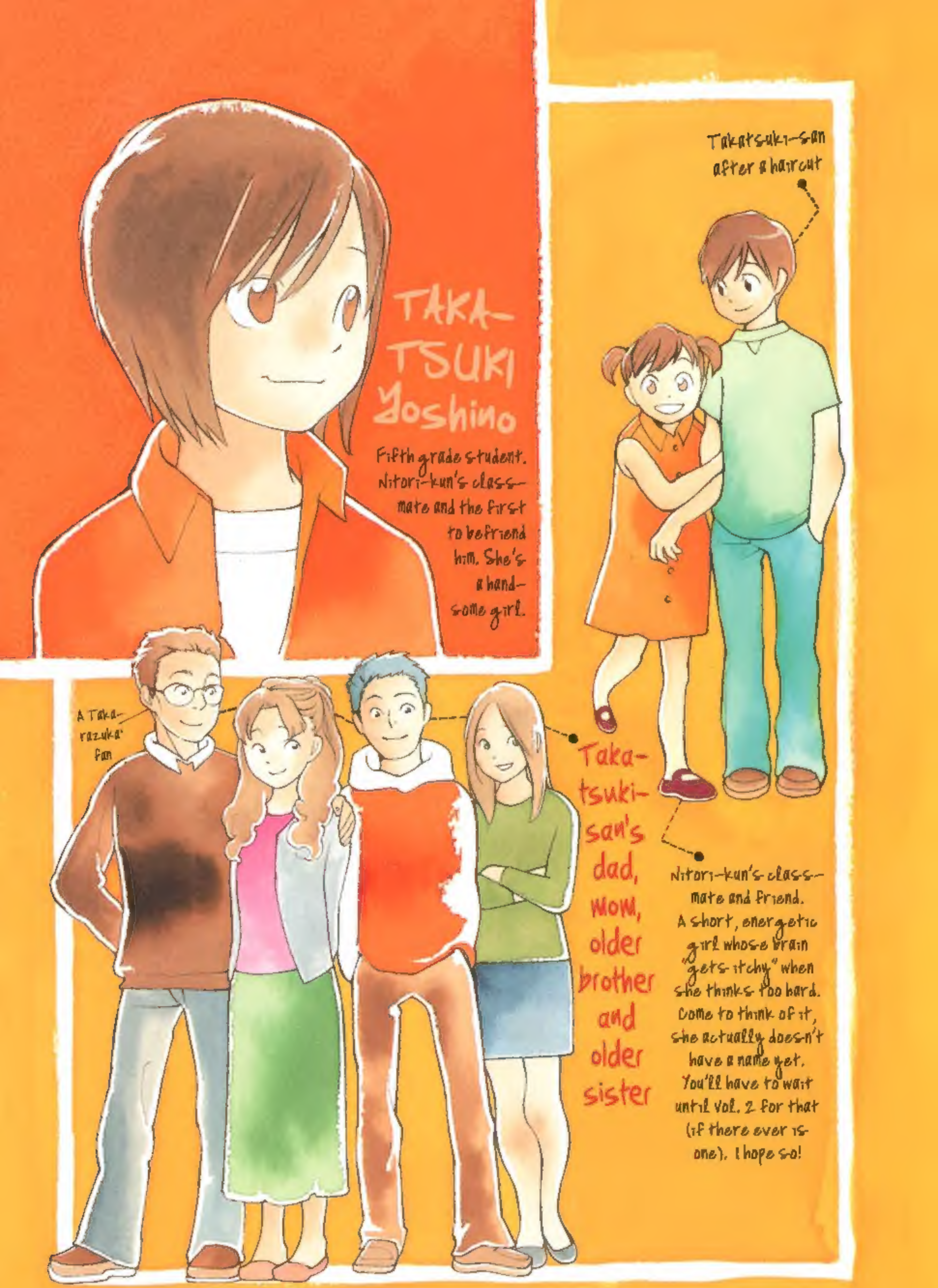
Fifth grade student. A quiet, docile boy, but when you look at the fact that all his friends are girls, he might be a real brat.

NITORI Maho

Nitori-kun's big sister. She can be pretty mean.

Nitori-kun's mom and dad

The family gets along well with each other.


TAKA-TSUKI Yoshino
Fifth grade student. Nitori-kun's classmate and the first to befriend him. She's a handsome girl.
Takatsuki-san after a haircut
A Takarazuka* fan
Takatsuki-san's dad, Mom, older brother and older sister
Nitori-kun's classmate and friend. A short, energetic girl whose brain "gets itchy" when she thinks too hard. Come to think of it, she actually doesn't have a name yet. You'll have to wait until vol. 2 for that (if there ever is one). I hope so!

*All-female revue troupes specializing in musical extravaganzas.

もくじ
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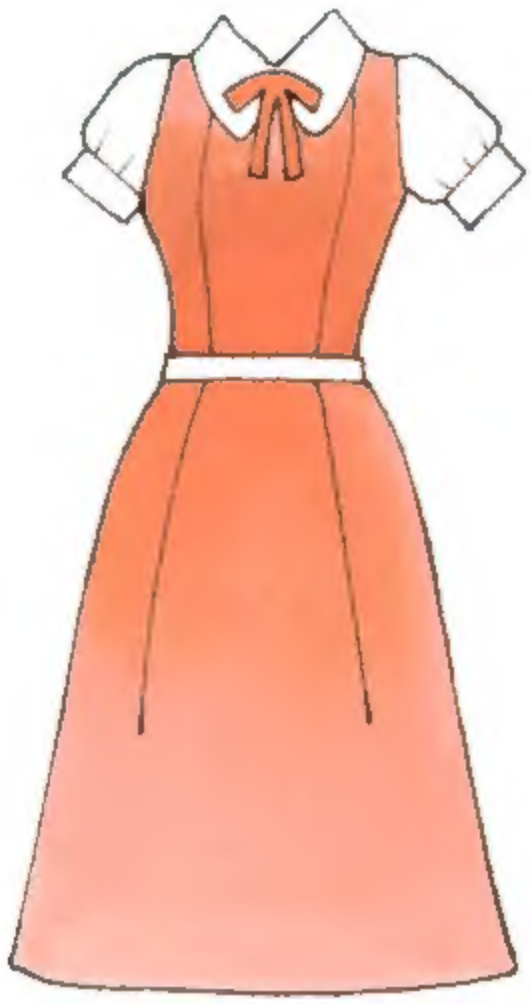
MY DREAM IS...

*Maiko-chan is a famous model in Japan.



YOU'RE CHEERFUL, AND YOU GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE, SO YOU'LL BE OK.

YOU'RE ALWAYS PUTTING SO MUCH PRESSURE ON ME WHEN YOU SAY THINGS LIKE "YOU'LL BE OK."

"BE OK"?

WHAT AM I GONNA DO IF THEY PICK ON ME?

YOU'RE A CHEERFUL GIRL, MAHO-CHAN. YOU'LL BE OK.

IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GO.

Yikes!

I SPILT CATSUP ON ME!

ONEE-CHAN!*

THEY GO AFTER THE GLOOMY KIDS.

Hey!

WELL, I THINK THEY'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO PICK ON SHUU.

* "Big Sister."

SHIT! I GUESS THAT WAS PAYBACK FOR TEASING SHUU.

PROBABLY.

GOTTA CHANGE! GOTTA CHANGE!

YOU'RE JUST QUIET, SHUU-CHAN, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

ALL RIGHT?

BE CAREFUL, OK?

YOU TOO, DAD.

I'M YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER, NAKAZAWA-SENSEI.

NICE TO MEET YOU!

I HEARD A TRANSFER STUDENT IS COMING.

Wow!

I'M GRADE SIX, CLASS FOUR.

YOU'RE GRADE FIVE, CLASS THREE.

Um, LET'S SEE...

NITORI MAHO-SAN.

NITORI SHUUICHI-KUN!

YES.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A... GOOD-NESS!

Oh, MY GOD!

A-ah ...

I'M SORRY!

... I'M NITORI SHUUICHI.

IS YOUR SISTER SICK TODAY?

CLASS THREE, hm?

MIURA-SENSEI ISN'T HERE YET.

CLASS THREE.

SO YOU'RE IN THE FIFTH GRADE, huh? WHICH CLASS?

I'M SORRY.

I'M YOUR SISTER'S HOMEROOM TEACHER.

Um...

NAKAZAWA-SENSEI!

YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL.

IT'S MIURA-SENSEI.

HELLO, THIS IS NAKA-ZAWA.

YEAH, ANYONE WOULD BE. THAT'S NO SURPRISE.

ARE YOU NERVOUS?

... A LITTLE.

MY NAME IS NITORI SHUUICHI.

OK, LET'S HAVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

IT'S GREAT THAT NOTHING SERIOUS HAPPENED TO YOUR SISTER.

LET'S SEE, YOUR SEAT WILL BE...

TAKATSUKI-SAN, RAISE YOUR HAND.

THANKS. YOU'LL SIT NEXT TO HER, OK?

WHAT A PAIN!

Hey!

Oh, RIGHT!

LET'S HAVE EVERYONE INTRODUCE THEMSELVES.

Hey, WHERE'S MIURA-SENSEI?

Ummm, WELL...

MIURA-SENSEI IS GOING TO BE A LITTLE LATE.

SHE'LL BE HERE, JUST LATE. I'LL TELL HER YOU WEREN'T STUDYING IF YOU DON'T BEHAVE.

CLUNK

OK THEN, AOKI-KUN, YOU GO FIRST.

... HI.

H-HI ...

WHAT ABOUT THE SELF-INTRODUC-TIONS?

Ah, RIGHT.

I'M TAKATSUKI YOSHINO.

YES.

CLINK

NEXT, TAKATSUKI-SAN.

OK.

Ah, SHE'S HERE.

OK, NEXT IS--

HANG IN THERE, NITORI-KUN.

IT'S OK! IT'S OK!

RATE

IS YOUR SISTER OK?

TUMP

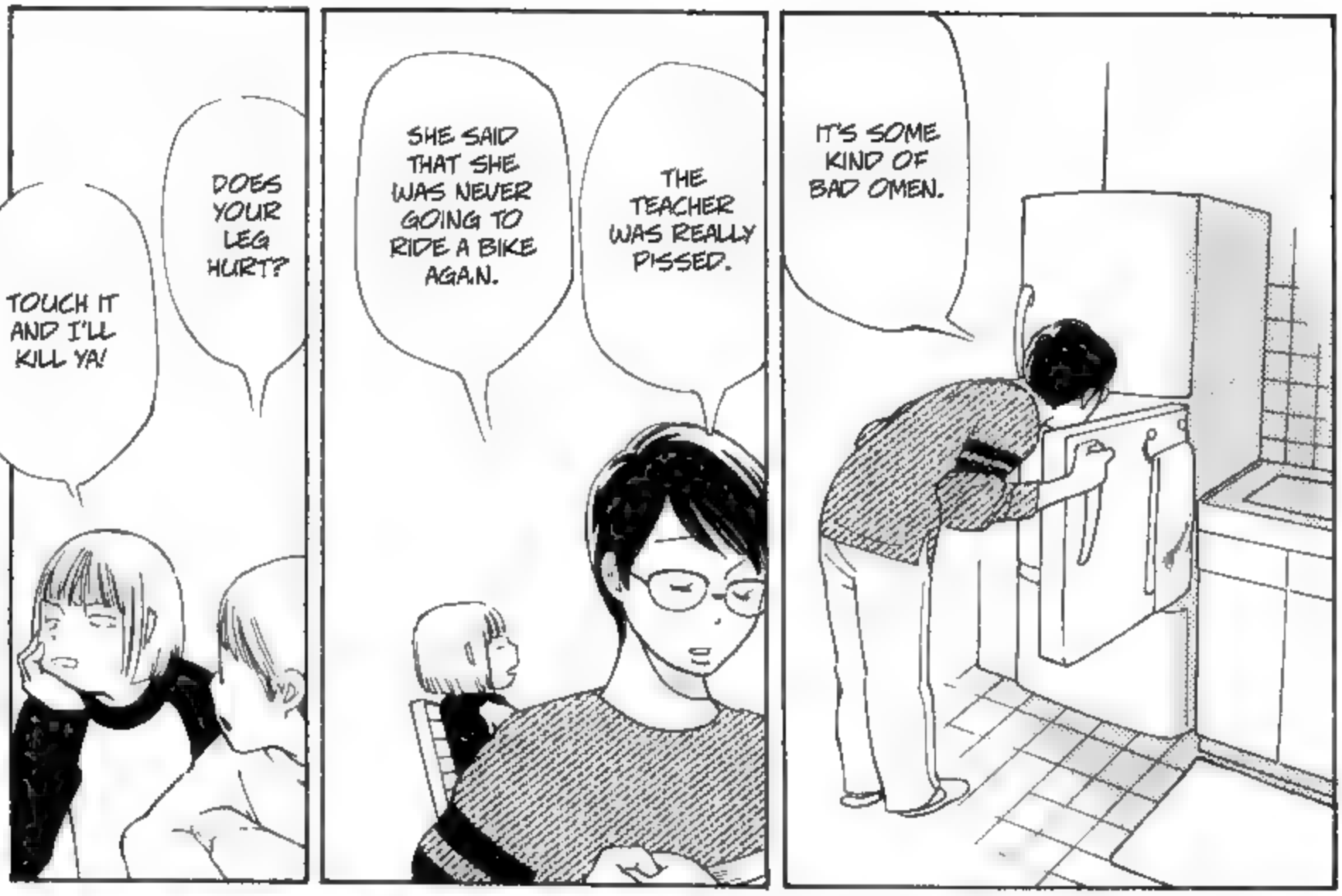
Mmmm. WELL, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

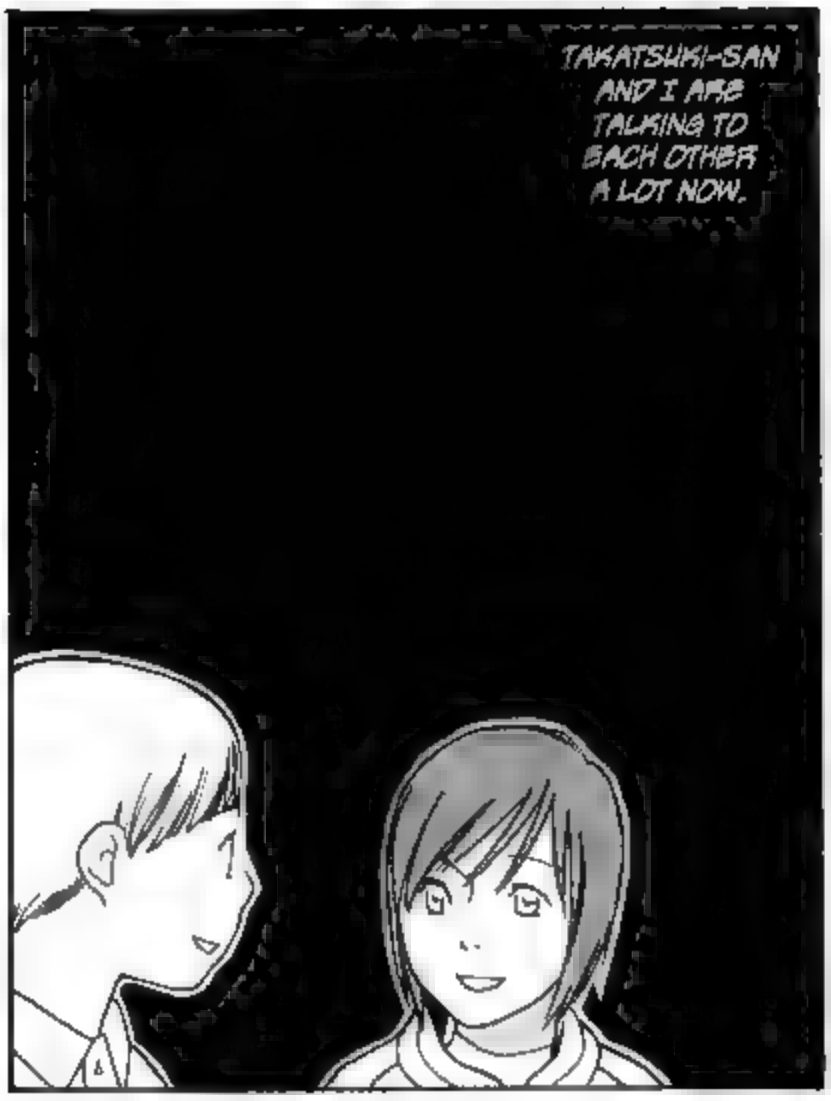
DID YOU OVER-SLEEP?

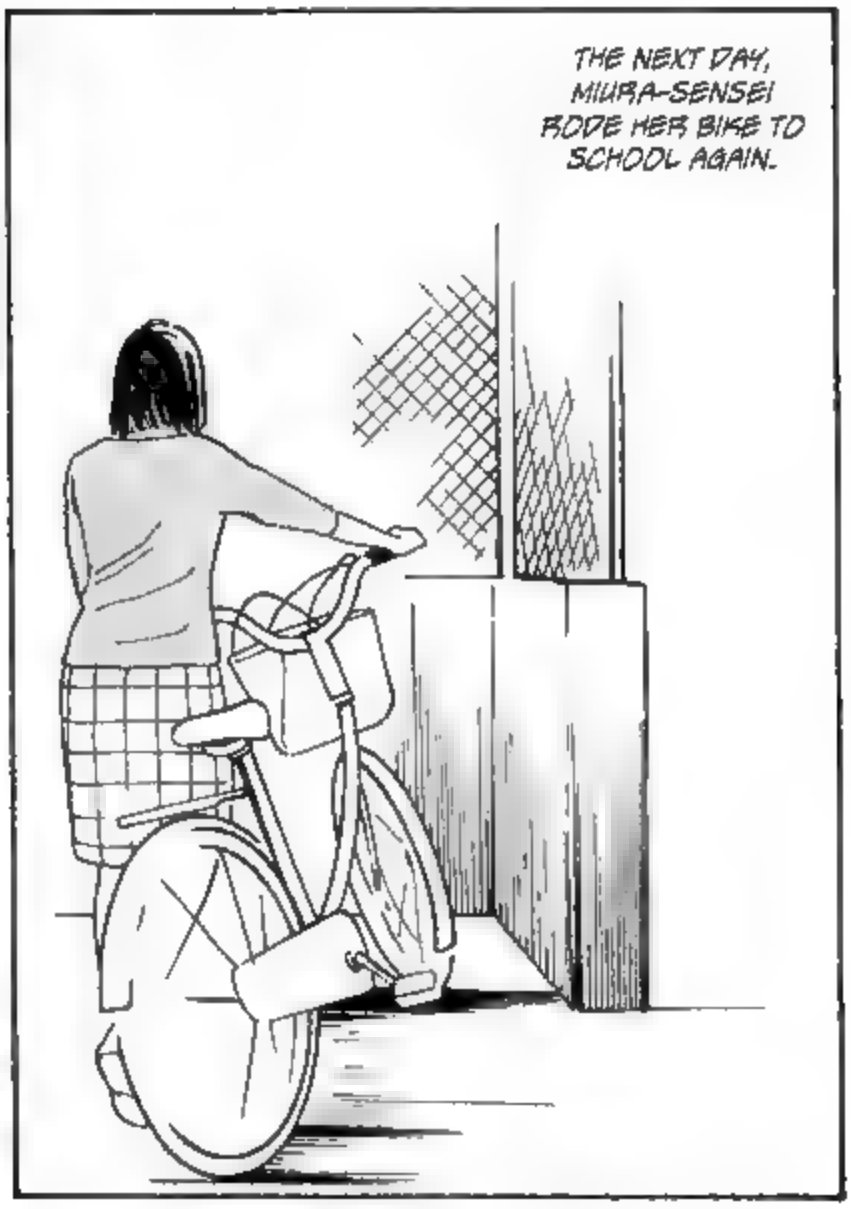
HER LEG.

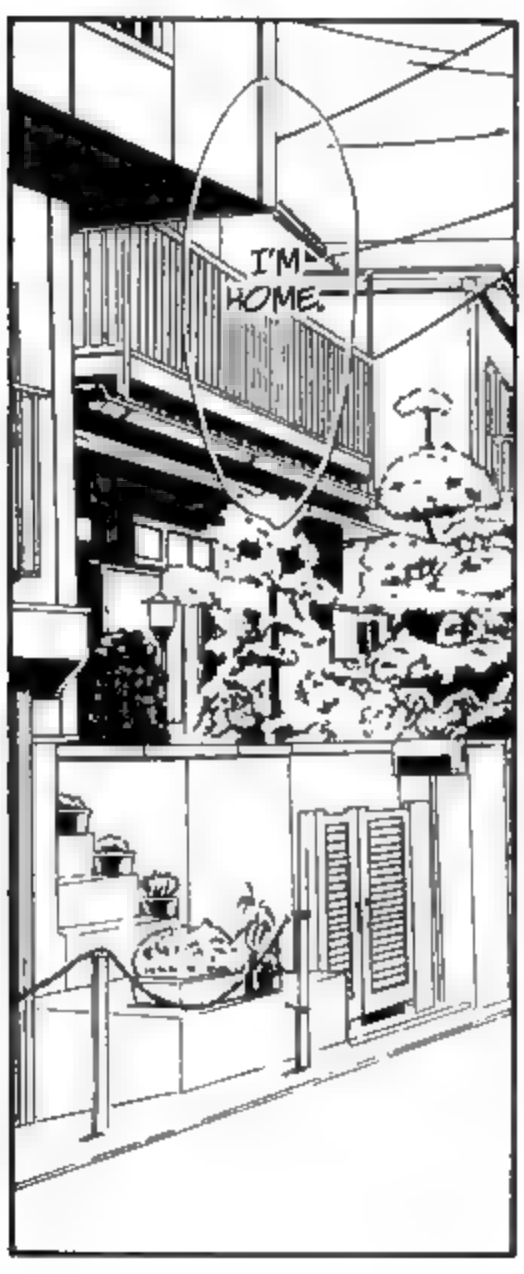
THAT'S DANGEROUS.

SHE WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION AROUND HER, SO SHE GOT PLOWED INTO.


TOUCH IT AND I'LL KILL YA!
DOES YOUR LEG HURT?
SHE SAID THAT SHE WAS NEVER GOING TO RIDE A BIKE AGA.N.
THE TEACHER WAS REALLY PISSED.
IT'S SOME KIND OF BAD OMEN.


TAKATSUKI-SAN AND I ARE TALKING TO EACH OTHER A LOT NOW.


THE NEXT DAY, MIURA-SENSEI RODE HER BIKE TO SCHOOL AGAIN.


I'M HOME.

MY SISTER'S LEG HEALED...

SENSEI RIDES HER BIKE EVERYDAY.

YOUR BIG SISTER?

YEAH. I'VE GOT A BIG BROTHER, TOO.

WELCOME!

H-HELLO.

Strange

I DON'T HAVE SNACKS.

I CAN'T FINISH IF I DON'T HAVE IT.

Group homework

JUST JUICE. THAT OK?

Oh, I HAVE SNACKS.

Huh? WHERE'S THE WORK-SHEET?

WHERE?

WHERE?

YEAH, THEY ARE.

I LIKE DOING STUFF LIKE THAT.

THEY LOOK HOMEMADE.

IT'S COOL.

Ah...

THAT'S KIND OF COOL.

Huh?

Hmmm.

YEAH, LET'S DO IT EARLY TOMORROW.

I'M SORRY, I GUESS I LEFT IT BACK IN CLASS. CAN WE DO IT TOMORROW ?

Um...

IT'D LOOK GOOD ON YOU, I THINK...

WHAT A SHAME!

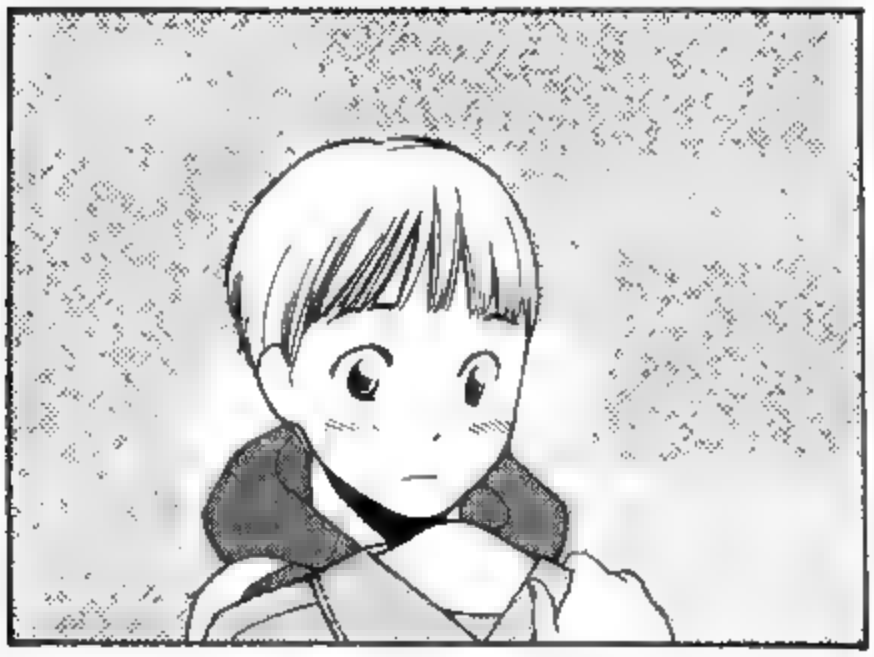
I DON'T.

I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU WEAR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

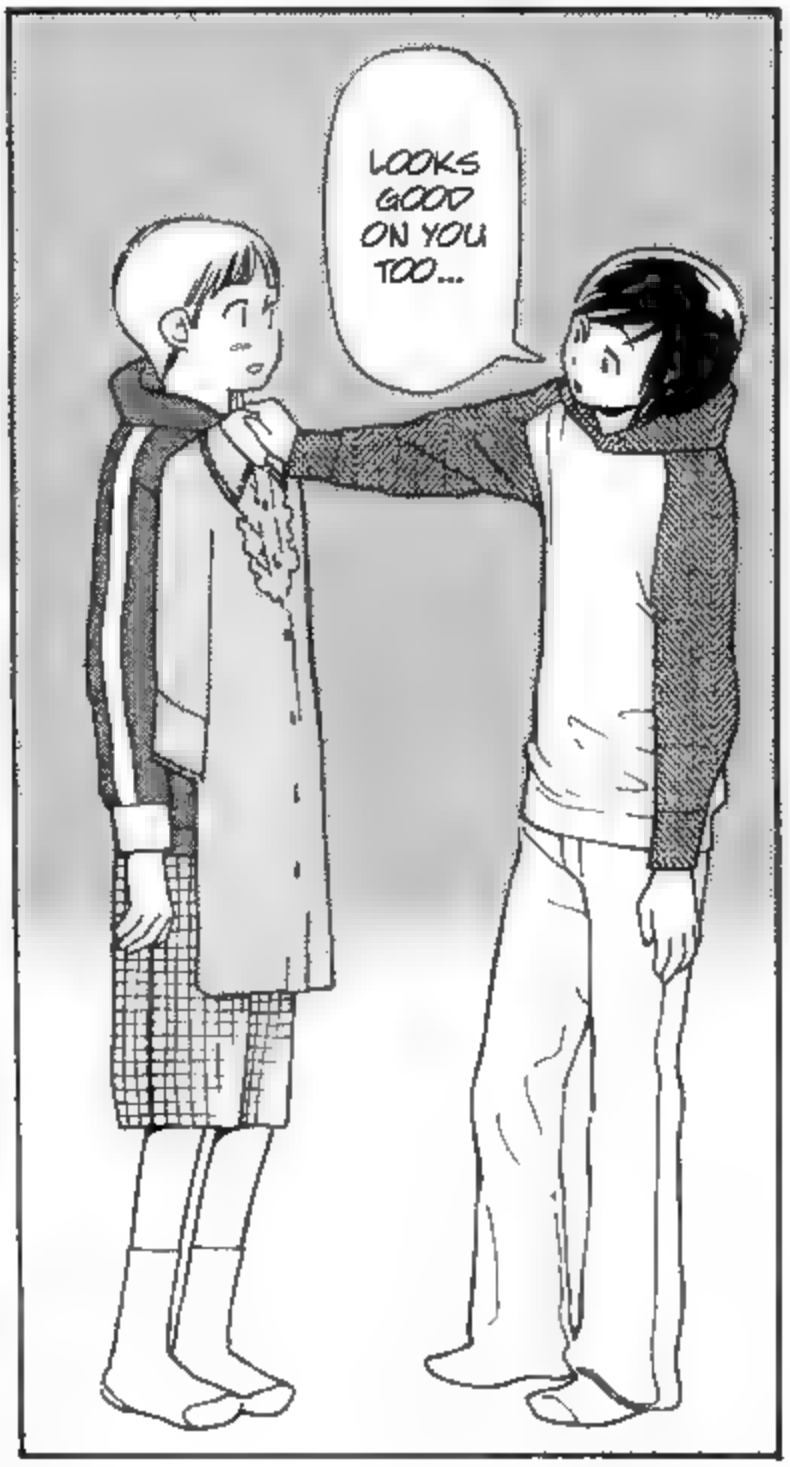
WHY DON'T *YOU* WEAR IT, NITORI-KUN?

WHA-

WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?



N-NO WAY...
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WANTED TO TRY IT ON JUST NOW.


LOOKS GOOD ON YOU TOO...

THEY KNOW I DON'T LIKE IT, BUT IT'S ALL THEY BUY ME. THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO MAKE ME MAD?
Huh...? I DUNNO...

"THIS STUFF"?
I DON'T NEED THIS STUFF.

EVERYONE GETS ALONG AT HOME.

MY BIG SISTER MAKES ME MAD SOMETIMES.

BUT SHE'S NOT THAT BAD.

YOU DON'T GET ALONG WITH YOUR MOM, TAKATSUKI-SAN?

THAT'S NOT IT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, NITORI-KUN?

YEAH.

REALLY?

I THINK SHE'D LIKE IT...

DON'T KNOW IF IT'S HER STYLE.

HUH?

DO YOU THINK YOUR SIS WOULD WEAR THIS?

RIGHT?

YEAH.

NO WAY! THAT'S COOL!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHAT'S THIS?

WHY?

SHUU-CHAN'S FRIEND, WELL...

WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ON?

Oh, YEAH! I'LL WEAR THIS! NO PROB!

WHAT?! SUCH A WASTE!

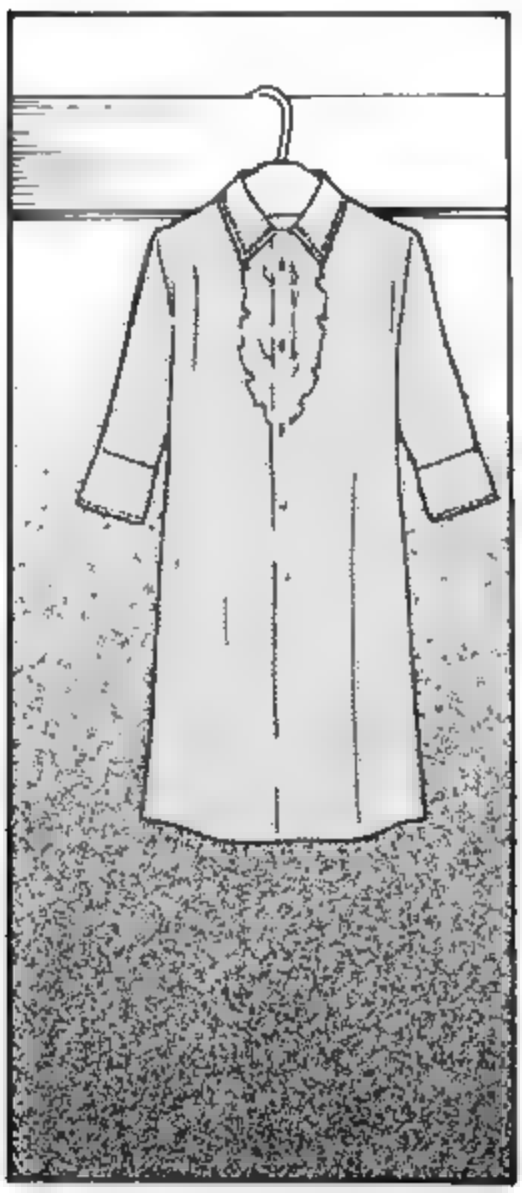
IT'S NEVER EVEN BEEN WORN, SO...

I'LL WEAR IT TOMORROW AND SAY THANKS.

LOOKS GOOD!

Oh, MY!

Well?



Yay! MORE CLOTHES!

THAT HELPS ME, TOO.

TAKA-TSUKI-SAN, RIGHT?

YEAH.

WHAT'S THIS? WHY ALL THE SUDDEN?

I WANT MY OWN ROOM.

THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!

YOU BRAT!

SHARING A ROOM WITH SHUU IS A MAJOR PAIN!

I'LL BE IN JUNIOR HIGH NEXT YEAR!

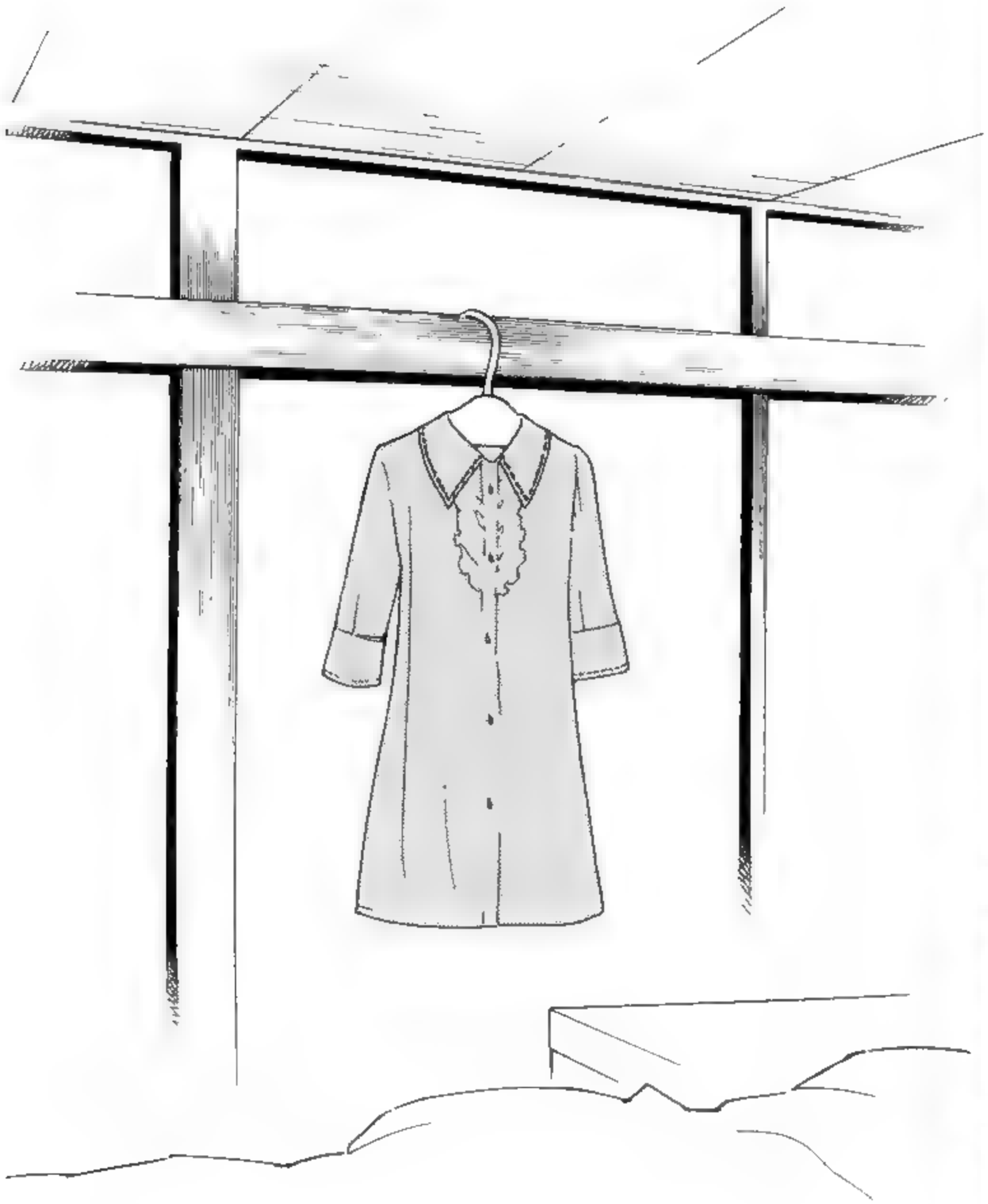
EVEN SO, ANOTHER ROOM WON'T MAGICALLY APPEAR.

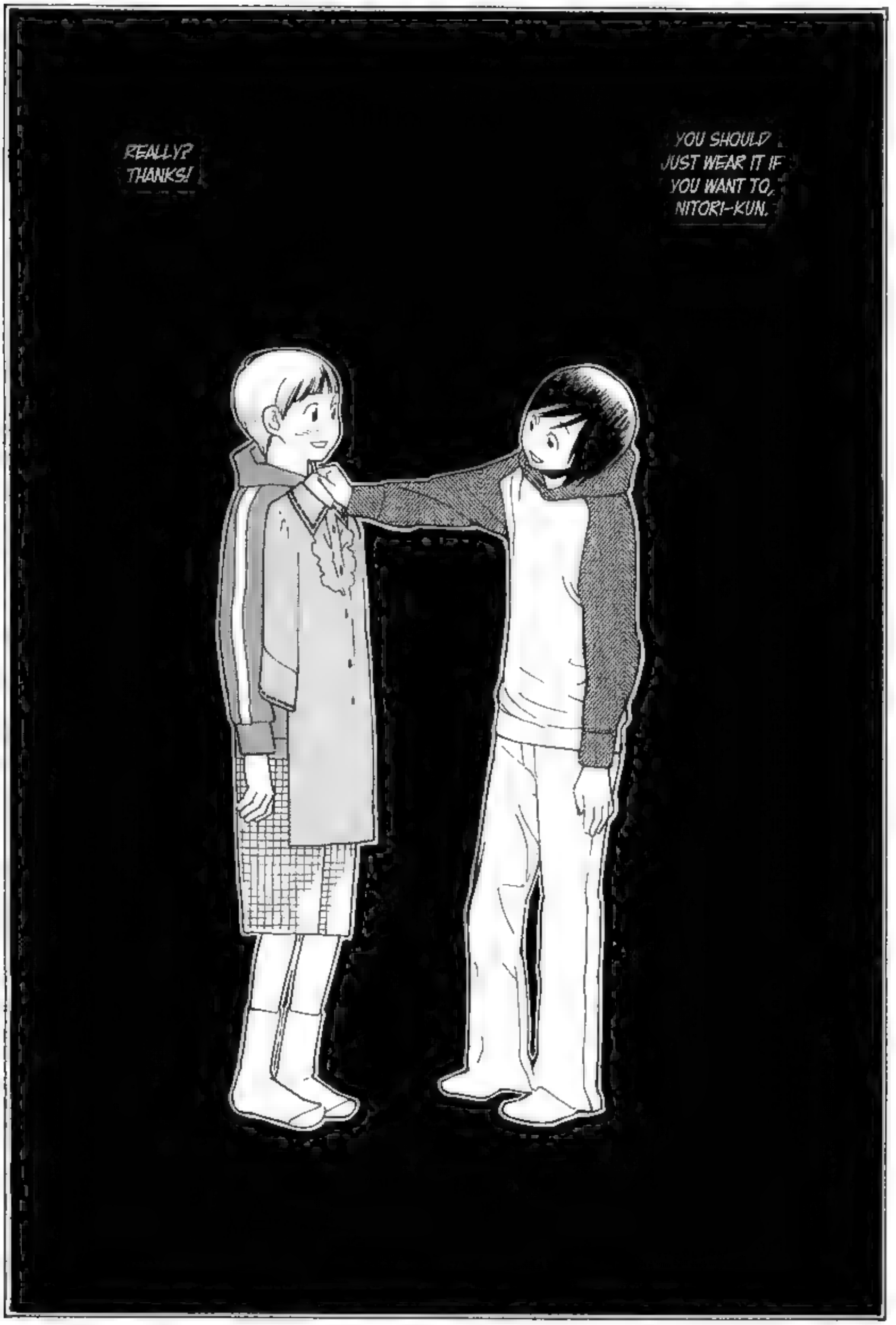
click

SHUU, HURRY UP AND GO TO SLEEP. WE HAVE TO GET UP EARLY TOMORROW.

OK

MY DREAM IS....




REALLY? THANKS!
YOU SHOULD JUST WEAR IT IF YOU WANT TO, NITORI-KUN.

SEE? DOESN'T IT?

I WONDER IF IT LOOKS OK...

IT LOOKS GOOD!

GIVE ME BACK MY DRESS!

YOU...

LITTLE FREAK!

AND WHAT THE HELL'S WITH THIS WIG?!

Ah...!

Oh...

MAHO-CHAN, GO WAKE UP SHUU.

WHY MEEE ?!

Heey! TAKATSUKI-KUUUN!

SHE'S *NOT* MY GIRL-FRIEND!

Oh, IT'S SHUU'S GIRL-FRIEND!

COOOLD!

COLD, HUH?

YEAH.

EVERYONE IN CLASS, AND, EVEN MY SISTER, CALL HER "TAKATSUKI-KUN".*

TAKATSUKI-SAN IS TALL, WELL-PROPORTIONED AND REALLY COOL.

MORNING!

GOOD MORNING!

*The "kun" honorific is typically used for boys.

Group Assignment

YOU'LL PRESENT YOUR REPORTS IN YOUR GROUPS TOMORROW. EVERYONE DO YOUR BEST, OK?

O K!

OK! -

BYE-BYE!

WE'LL MEET AT TAKATSUKI-KUN'S HOUSE AT THREE O'CLOCK, ALL RIGHT?

OK, LATER!

YEP.

THOSE GUYS ARE STUPID.

JERKS!

Hey, NITORI! GOIN' TO TAKATSUKI'S HOUSE, huuuh?

Hehehe

Oh, YOU WANNA GO THERE WITH ME?

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO TAKATSUKI-SAN'S HOUSE.

REALLY ?

part

part

part

NITORI-KUUUN!

NITORI-KUN, YOU AND TAKATSUKI-SAN ARE SO CLOSE.

NO ...

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

YOU'RE SO NICE, NITORI-KUN.

HUH?

YOU TWO GOING OUT?

THE GUYS ALL SAY YOU ARE...

WELL, WE'RE FRIENDS, BUT...

NO WAY!

NOT AT ALL!

WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT...?

YOU'RE NOT?

THANK GOODNESS!

CHIBA-SAN IS...

BYE-BYE!

OK, MEET HERE AT 2:50, RIGHT?

CHIBA SADRI-SAN IS...

...HARD TO UNDER-STAND.

YOU GOT MORE CLOTHES.

Oh!

YEAH.

BUT YOU'D NEVER WEAR THAT, RIGHT?

ha ha ha

NITORI-KUN, CAN YOU TAKE THIS ONE HOME, TOO?

PLEASE EXCUSE US!

IT'S FOR NITORI-KUN'S BIG SISTER.

WHA? HE'S NOT?!

THINK AGAIN, YOU DOPE.

NO WAY! NITORI'S GONNA WEAR THAT?!

MAN, YOU'RE SO STUPID. Jeez!

BUT...

DAMN. HOW BOOORING.

I THINK IT'D LOOK GOOD...

...ON NITORI-KUN.

Let's make him wear it!

Make him wear it!

I WANNA SEE HIM IN IT!

IT REALLY WOULD LOOK GOOD ON HIM!

YOU'RE RIGHT!

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...

eeK

SORRY, NITORI!

DUDE, I'M OUTTA HERE!

THEY WOULDN'T BE OF ANY HELP EVEN IF THEY STAYED.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE HOMEWORK?

Oh...

THEY'RE USELESS TO ME ANYWAY.

THE GUYS WENT HOME.

thud thud thud thud

That's mean!

WHAT'S UP WITH THIS GUY?

LOOK!

EVEN WITH THE HAIR-BAND ALONE HE ALREADY LOOKS JUST LIKE A GIRL!

Aahhh!! I REALLY WANT TO SEE HIM IN GIRL'S CLOTHES NOW...

HE'S TRYING TO RUN AWAY!

Ah...

Um, I'VE REALLY GOT TO BE...

HE'S TRYING TO RUN AWAY!

Me——e!

WHO WANTS TO SEE NITORI-KUN DRESSED UP LIKE A GIRL ALL THE WAY?

WHY?

"WHY" ...?!

STOP IT. DON'T DO THAT.

I DON'T THINK IT REALLY BOTHERS NITORI-KUN DEEP DOWN.

U-

Um...

THAT'S RIGHT. OUR HOME-WORK.

Y-

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

THE PRESEN-TATION IS TOMORROW!

WHAT ABOUT OUR HOME-WORK?

Oh...

Aw, come on!

WELL, I'VE GOT TO GO TO MY CRAM SCHOOL NOW. I'M LEAVING.

SHE'S...

WELL, SHE'S JUST LIKE THAT.

JUST WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS SHE..?

YOU CAN TAKE IT OFF NOW.

AH

*About $3.00 US.

THAT'LL BE 280 YEN*.

I SEE.

A HAIR-BAND.

I SEE...

[Bag. Hairband]

OK.

EVERY-ONE GIVE GROUP THREE A HAND.

YOUR SUMMARY WAS VERY GOOD AND EASY TO UNDERSTAND.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

YOU GUYS HAVE *NO* RIGHT TO GET ANY APPLAUSE!

W-

WE LEFT 'CAUSE *YOU* STARTED DOIN' THAT GROSS CRAP!

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

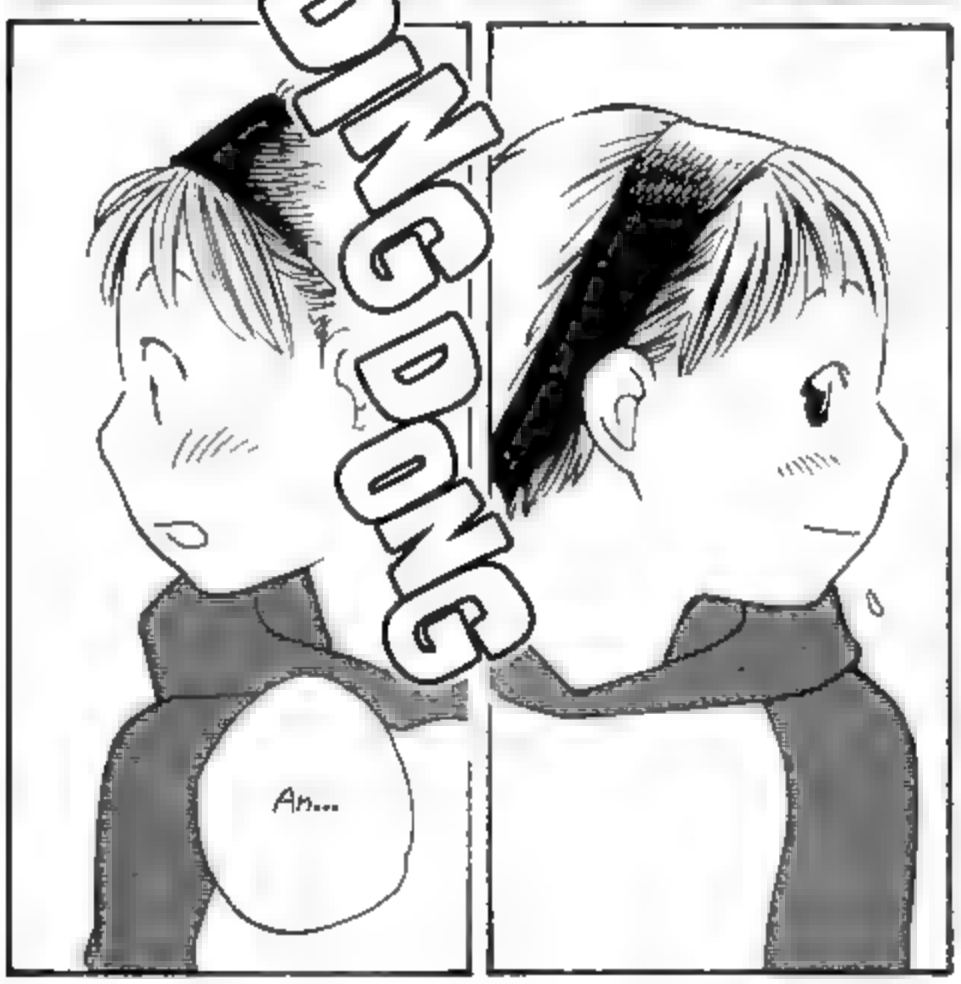
Th-
That bitch!

WE'RE GETTING PRAISED FOR DOING A GOOD JOB, SO JUST LET IT SLIDE.

Oh, PERFECT TIMING!

I'M HOME.

*Duskin is a door-to-door sales company.



Oh.

JUST A MOMENT.
MONEY... MONEY...

Oh, I SEE...

ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE HOME, MISS?

S-

SURE ...

OK THEN, HAVE A NICE DAY.

WELL THEN...

WOULD YOU PLEASE GIVE THIS TO YOUR MOM OR DAD?

Toyota Corolla

WHO

MISS...

TH-THAT'S RIGHT...

Ah!

THAT ONE WORD RAN WILD THROUGH ME.

MISS ...!!

MISS ...

MISS ...

MISS ...

I HELD IT UP AGAINST ME.

AND I
TRIED IT
ON...

DUSKIN.

PAPER.

DUSKIN.

PAPER.

DUSKIN.

clench

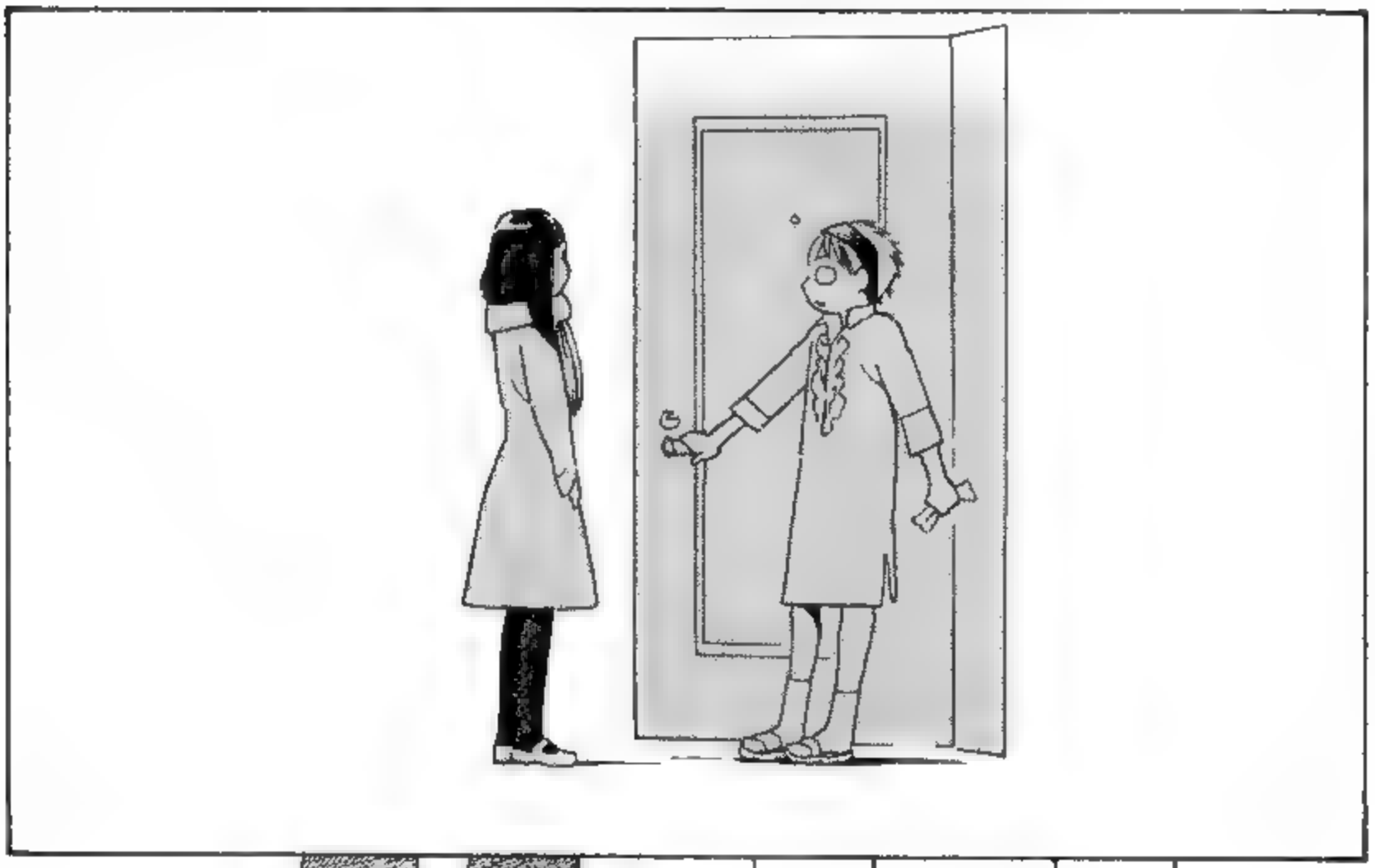
ding dong

Gasp! —

CLACK!

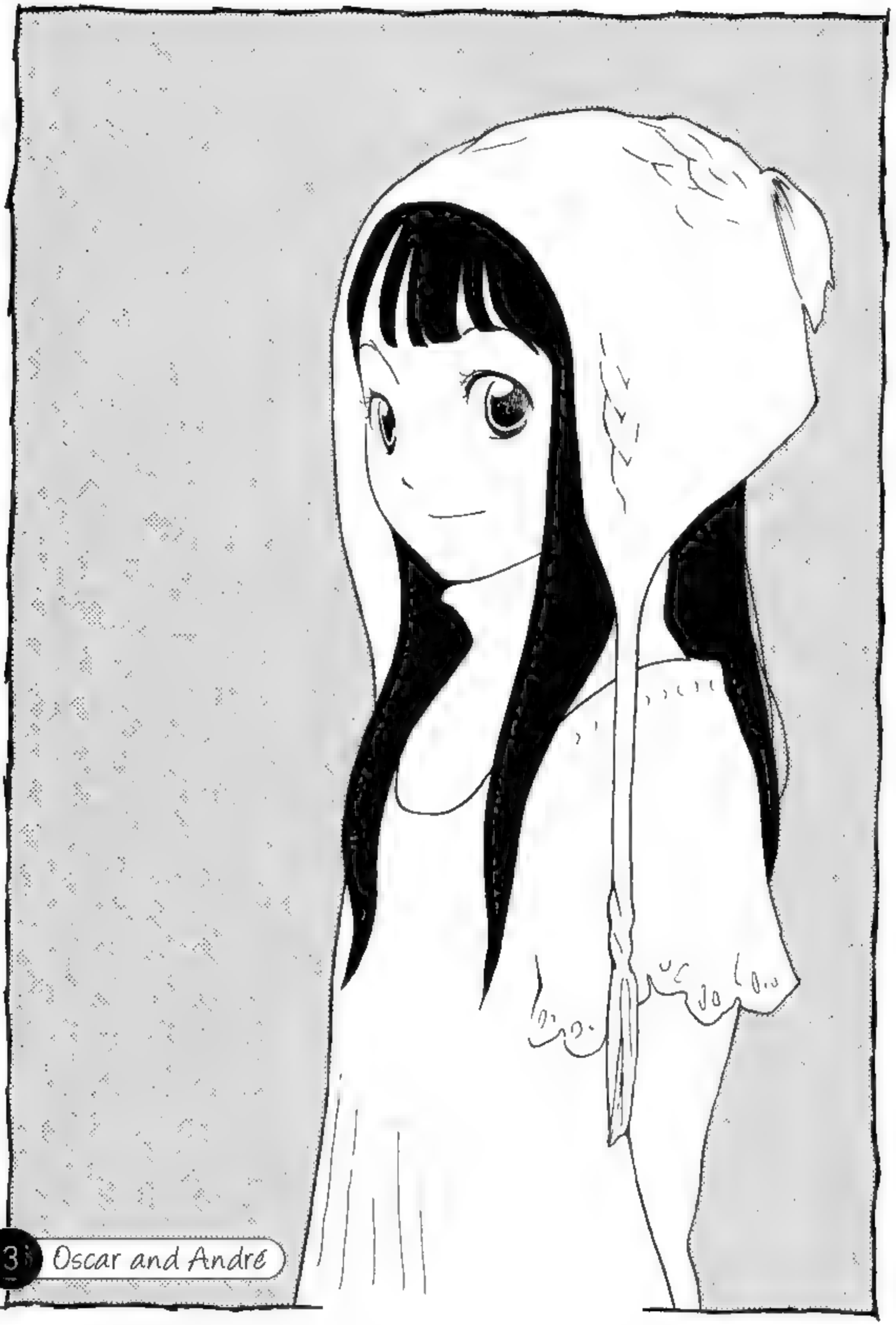
PA...

...PER.



...IS CHIBA-SAN?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON...

...IS CHIBA-SAN?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON...



IS THIS WHAT YOU ALWAYS WEAR AT HOME?

ah

OH MY GOD!

MY MOM'S NOT HOME TODAY, SO...

OK, CALL ME WHEN YOU FIND OUT.

I'LL JUST ASK WHEN SHE GETS BACK.

BUT THE TEACHER'S TOTALLY COOL.

IF I TELL HER THAT, THERE'S NO WAY SHE'LL LET ME..

ha ha ha

Huh?

IT'S UNLOCKED.

YOUR BROTHER MUST BE HOME, huh?

SLIDE

I'M HOME!

Excuse me...

I'll...

...MAKE SOME COCOA.

SLAM

I-

clack

DO YOU WANT ME TO GO HOME NOW?

HE'S DISGUSTING.

Wow, LOOKS DELICIOUS!

AND AFTER YOU LOOKED SO NICE...

ANYWAY ...

THEY *REALLY* WANT US TO SEND IT IN SOON...

SHUU-CHAN...

DINNER'S READY!

DINNER'S GONNA GET COLD!

BUT YOU BETTER KEEP UP WITH IT THIS TIME.

WELL, I GUESS I DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM WITH YOU GOING TO CRAM SCHOOL.

WHAT?!

HE WAS DOING SOME-THING DIRTY TODAY.

Ah, THE PERV!

FOR NOW, I'M ONLY LETTING YOU GO THROUGH WINTER VACATION.

OK?

OK!

THERE WAS A LOVE LETTER IN THE MAIL-BOX.

I DIDN'T!

SOME-THING DIRTY?! LISTEN, YOUNG MAN.

SOME-THING ...

...WITH A GIRL.

SHE WAS PRETTY CUTE, TOO.

Oh, I GOT ONE, TOO.

ME TOO!

HEY!

"PLEASE COME TO MY BIRTH-DAY PARTY IF YOU CAN."

Oooh...

IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE IN OUR GROUP GOT ONE.

BUT THAT'S JUST FOR A HEAD COUNT.

Oh...

MORNING!

SINCE NITORI-KUN IS THE GUEST OF HONOR.

Huh ?!

MORNING.

MORNING ...

MORNING!

SHE'S SO TRANS-PARENT.

YEAH.

Huh?

Oh...

DID YOU READ YOUR INVITA-TION?

Huh? AREN'T *YOU* GOING?

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE REALLY THAT CLOSE, SO...

Hey, ARE YOU GOING...

...TO CHIBA-SAN'S BIRTHDAY PARTY?

WELL, SHE'S IN OUR GROUP, SO LET'S SUPPORT HER.

LET'S GET THE MORNING MEETING STARTED.

5年3組

Mmmm ...

HARD CHOICE, huh?

[Sign. Grade 5, Class 3]

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY GOOD IDEAS?

WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT THE 6TH GRADERS' FAREWELL PARTY.

Oh...

OK, CHIBA-SAN.

...WHERE THE BOYS' PARTS ARE PLAYED BY GIRLS...

...AND THE GIRLS' ARE PLAYED BY BOYS...

OR SOME-THING...

Umm ...

HOW ABOUT A PLAY...

THAT TYPE OF...

...PLAY?

TRANS-PARENT...

ABSO-LUTELY...

TOTALLY ...

He! He! He!

YEAH.

PRETTY INTERESTING.

COULD BE COOL?

HOW ABOUT YOU DO THE ROSE OF VERSAILLES?

OK, THEN, um...

IS IT OK FOR US TO GO WITH CHIBA-SAN'S IDEA?

A Takarazuka fan

NO WAY!

ARE THERE ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS?

NOPE.

THE GAYS ALL AGREE.

SO THEY SETTLED ON *BENIBARA**.

...YEAH.

GO AHEAD AND LAUGH, BUT YOU GOTTA BE ANDRÉ, TAKATSUKI-KUN!

HUH?

Ha! Ha! Ha!

Huh?

OSCAR!

*Benibara *is a Japanese slang term for* Berusaiyu no Bara (The Rose of Versailles).

Ha!
Ha!

...
Ha!
Ha!

Don't ya think?

NITORI-KUN, YOU'D BE BETTER AS MARIE ANTOI-NETTE.

...

BYE-BYE.

SEE YOU!

SHE'S THE MAIN CHARACTER AND ALL.

Oh, MAN! I WISH YOU GOT TO BE OSCAR!

YOU'RE TOO EASYGOING!

THEY BOTH DIE IN THE END.

EITHER ONE IS FINE.

NO WAY!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE. HOW 'BOUT YOU GO SEE IT WITH ME?

I KNOW, DAD.

I'VE GONE TO SEE IT... I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES NOW...

Ah! SHE SAID MY LOVE IS CREEPY...

AWW

POOR DADDY.

STOP IT, THAT SOUNDS SO CREEPY!

Aww, GO WITH DADDY, YO-CHAN. YOU KNOW HE JUST LOVES YOU SOOO MUCH.

TAKATSUKI-SAN WOULD BE A PERFECT FIT FOR ANDRÉ OR OSCAR, huh?

YEAH!

REALLY?

MY DAD SAID HE WANTS ME TO BE A PART OF THE TAKARA-ZUKA.

THAT WOULD BE PERFECT FOR YOU!

Huh?

WHO DO YOU WANT TO PLAY, NITORI-KUN?

NITORI-KUN IS JUST SO...

BUT FOR NITORI-KUN, OSCAR IS TOO...

YEAH, THAT'S FOR SURE.

IT'D BE MEAN-INGLESS FOR A BOY TO PLAY ANDRÉ.

301 千葉

HERE ...

HERE IT IS.

[Plate Ch ba]

JUST MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.

So this is

Oh!

Coming!

I'M JUST SO WHAT ...?

Ding Dong

HERE'S MINE.

Oh.

Oh, RIGHT!

HERE'S YOUR PRESENT.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

AND MINE, TOO.

I'M SO HAPPY.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

...THANK YOU.

SO, NO ONE ELSE CAME, huh?

DON'T THEY... LIKE CHIBA-SAN?

DUNNO.

Bye-bye!

Bye-bye!

Ooooh... WHEN I THINK TOO MUCH, MY BRAIN GETS ITCHY!

Huff...

Later!

Yeah.

THAT'S WEIRD.

HER BRAIN GETS ITCHY?

DON'T ASK TO SEE MINE!

Gah! DON'T LOOK!

Mah! LOOK, LOOK! HE'S SUPER-DUMB!

NO WAY! MY MATH SCORES DROPPED!

STAND.

BOW.

NOW, EVERYONE HAVE A NICE WINTER VACATION, OK?

O K!

THE SCRIPTS ARE FINISHED, SO PLEASE PICK ONE UP ON YOUR WAY OUT.

BYE-BYE!

BYE-BYE!

Good-bye!

I HAVE SO MANY LINES, WILL I BE OK...?

IT'S NOT THAT ...

IT'S JUST ...

I THOUGHT YOU'D BE MORE EXCITED THAN ANY OF US.

BUT YOU HAVEN'T SAID A THING.

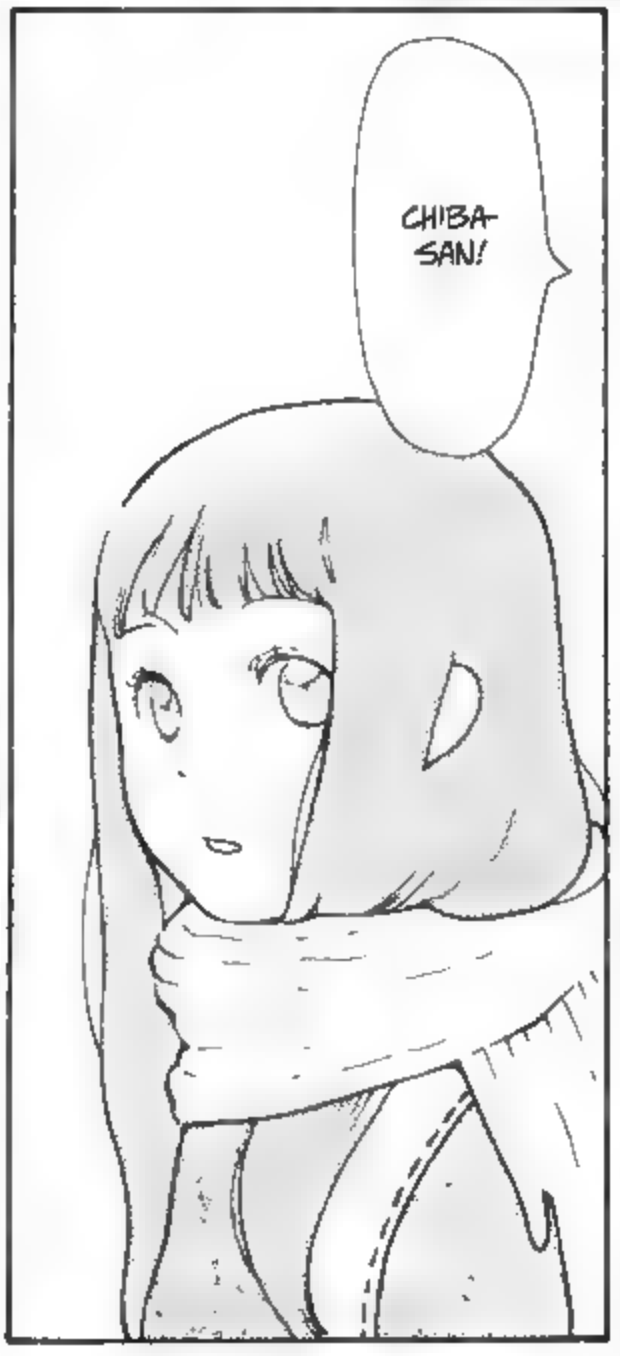
AVILEX

SOME-HOW...

TOO MUCH ...

SELFISH BRAT...!

GOOD-BYE.


CHIBA-SAN!

I'M SORRY.

Luff

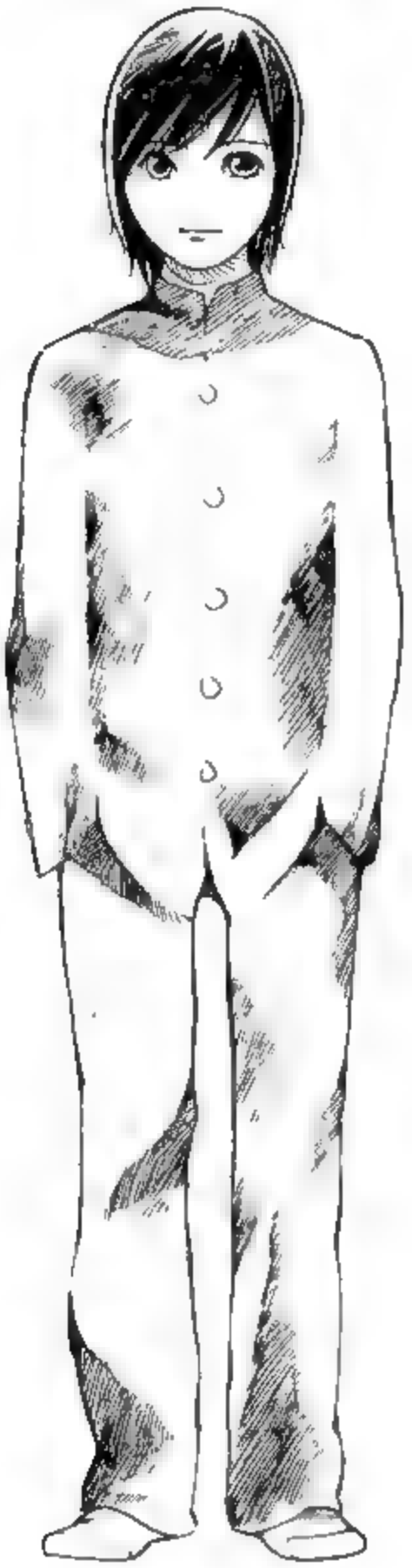
...YEAH.

BUT NOW YOU'LL BE IN OSCAR'S MALE GARMENTS FOR MOST OF THE PLAY*...

I...

...JUST WANTED YOU TO WEAR GIRLS' CLOTHING AGAIN.

*In the play, Oscar is a woman who successfully pretends to be a male guard.



YOSHINO.

WAAAH

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

CLACK

DO YOU HAVE MY DICTIONARY?

WELL, uh, SURE, I GUESS...

ONII-SAN*, CAN I HAVE THIS?

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FOUND THAT THING.

My old junior high uniform

It fits perfectly

IT WAS IN THE BACK ROOM.

* "Big Brother."

YOU KEPT THEM? WHY IN THE WORLD?

THAT'S RIGHT. I KEPT ALL OF YOUR OLD UNIFORMS.

AS MEMENTOS.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, TAKE YOUR SISTER'S UNIFORM, TOO.

Hmmm ...

I CAN USE IT FOR THE PLAY.

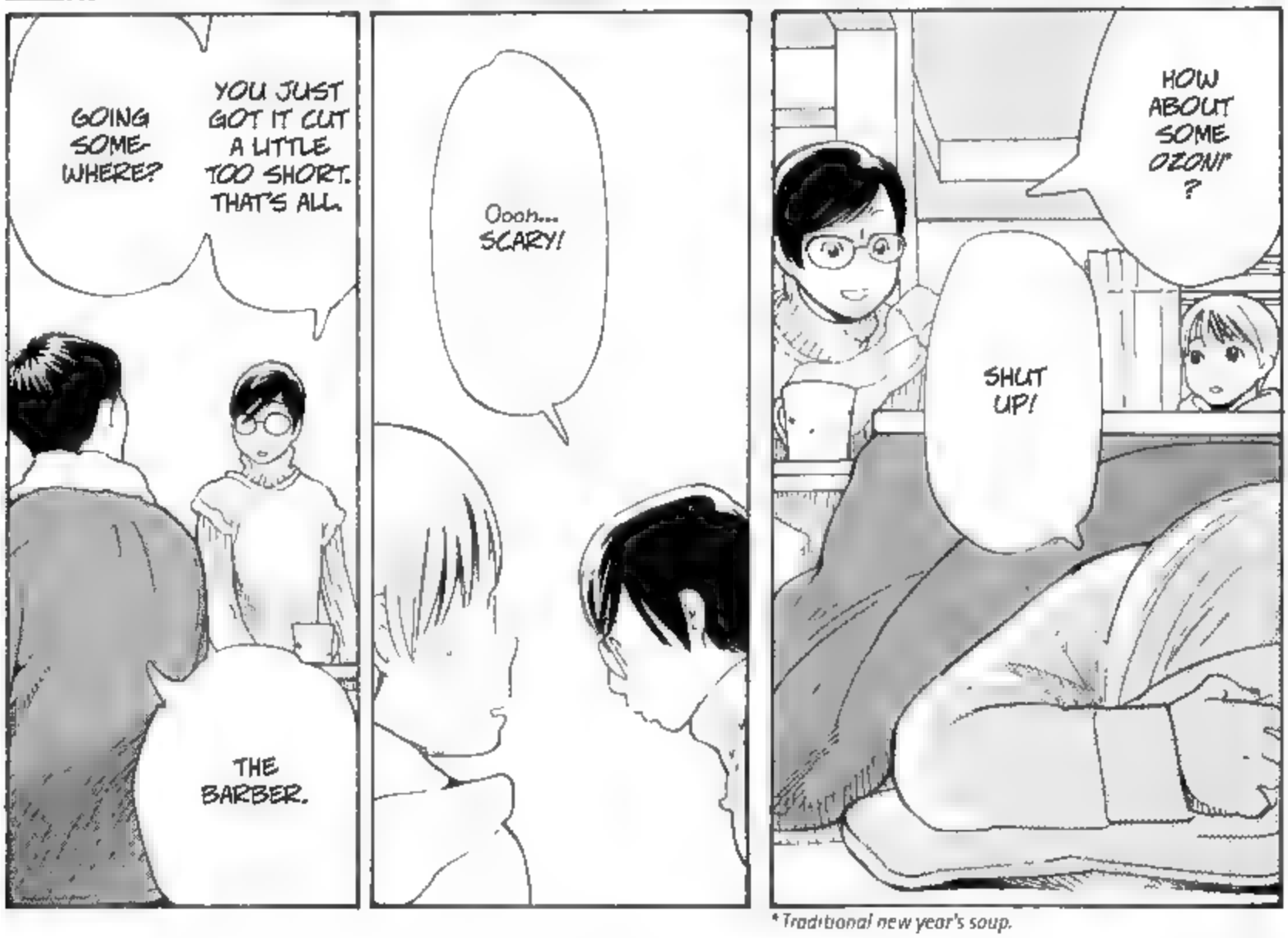
FOR BERUBARA*?

BUT WHAT DO YOU WANT IT FOR?

I SHOULD CUT MY HAIR!

Ah!

* *Short for* Berusaiyu no Bara (The Rose of Versailles).



*Traditional new year's soup.

YOU WANNA COME WITH ME, SHUU?

YOUR BANGS ARE GETTING LONG.

Sip

Hm?

SURE.

COCOA?

On vacation. Closed until January 9th.

Yokoyama Barber Shop

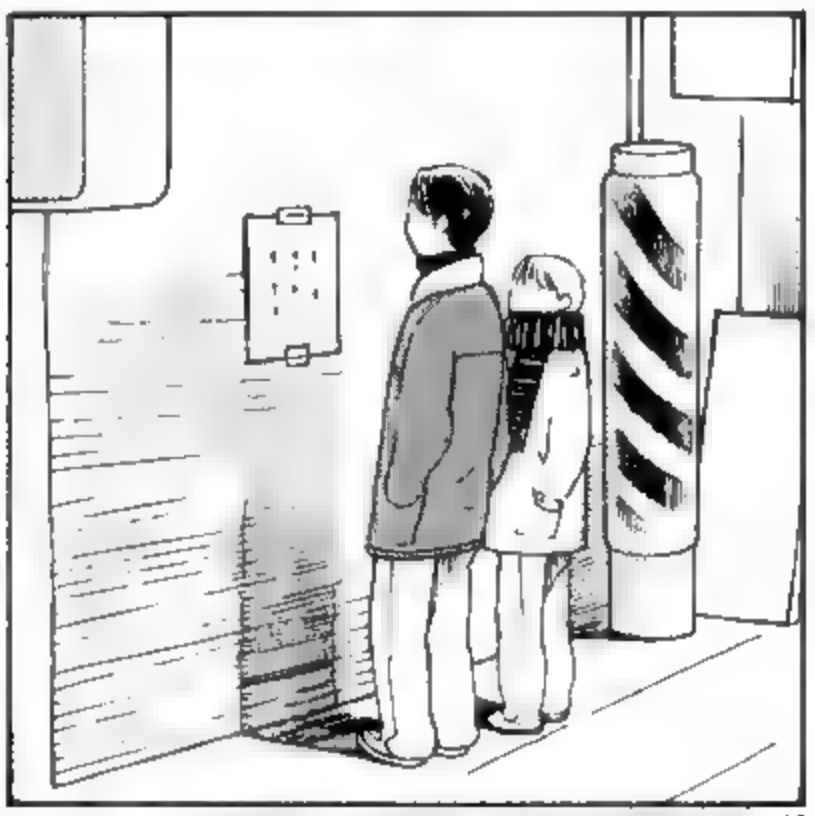
LET'S BUY SOMETHING FOR YOUR SISTER WHILE WE'RE OUT.

IT'LL GROW BACK SOON.

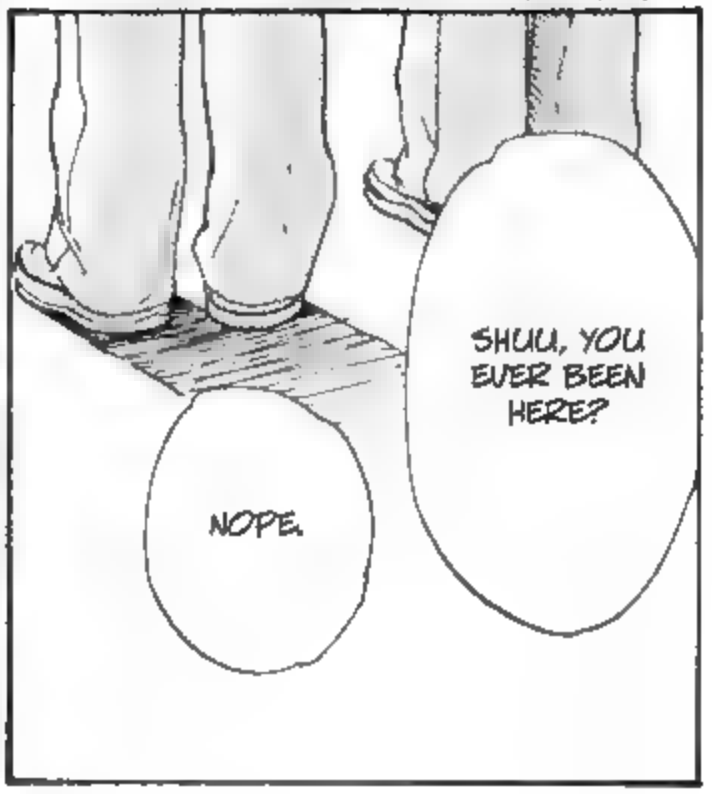
I WISH I WENT WITH DAD, TOO!

Waaah!

CUT STUDIO
CUT STUDIO



Chig-a-lig
YEAH, BUT THEY'RE ALL YOUNGER GUYS.
THERE ARE SOME GUYS IN THERE.
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?


SHUU, YOU EVER BEEN HERE?
NOPE.

DO YOU HAVE AN APPOINT-MENT?

Oh, NO.

WELCOME!

Oh!

OK, COULD YOU PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME HERE?

DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE.

YEAH.

Oh.

MY CLASS-MATE, TAKA-TSUKI-SAN.

Oh!

NICE TO MEET YOU.

IT'S A PLEASURE.

SO WHAT ARE WE DOING TODAY?

JUST TRIM THE BANGS, OR, uh...

JUST A TRIM, PLEASE...

I WANT YOU TO CUT IT REALLY SHORT.

Oh, OK.

OK, HOW ABOUT EYEBROW LENGTH TO START OFF WITH?

MAYBE I SHOULD GET MINE CUT THAT SHORT.

CHOP IT OFF?

YEP.

CHOP IT OFF.

YES?

Ah...

Sparkle

I'M SORRY...
Um...
Um...
THEN AGAIN...
YOU'RE PRETTY STRANGE.
CHANGED YOUR MIND?

HERE YOU GO.

I WONDER IF WE LOOK LIKE A BUNCH OF GUYS?

SHUU'S JUST THE OPPOSITE.

SO YOU ACTUALLY DID IT, eh?

YEAH, DECIDED TO GO FOR IT.

YOU PROBABLY LOOK MORE LIKE A GIRL THAN ME, NITORI-KUN.

Ha! Ha! Ha!

WELL...

DON'T FORCE YOURSELF.

GIRLS GOT IT GOOD ...

THEY CAN BE EITHER.

SHE REALLY IS MORE LIKE A GUY, huh?

YEAH.

I HAVE HOMEWORK TO DO!

BIG PROBLEM, huh?

Oh! TAKOYAKI*!

SOME GOODIES ...

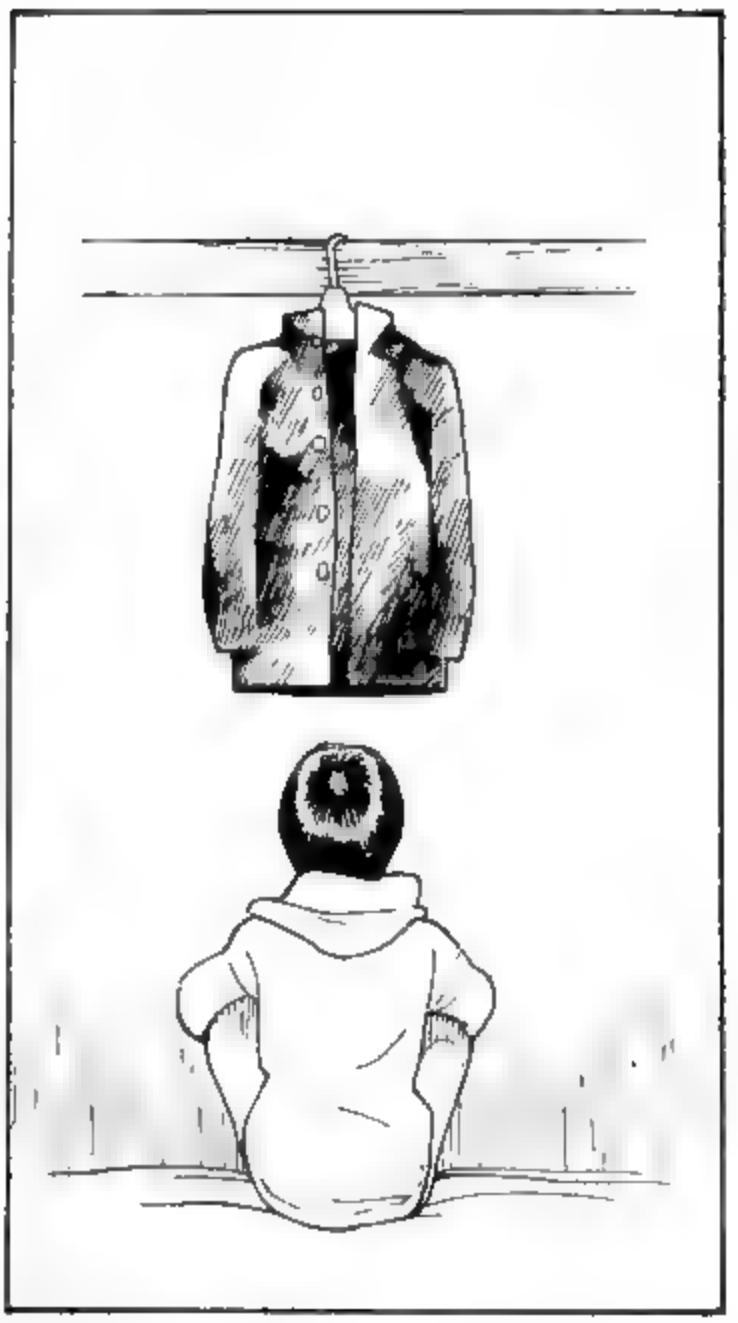
MAHO-CHAN, DO YOU WANT SOME TAKOYAKI?

WE'RE BACK

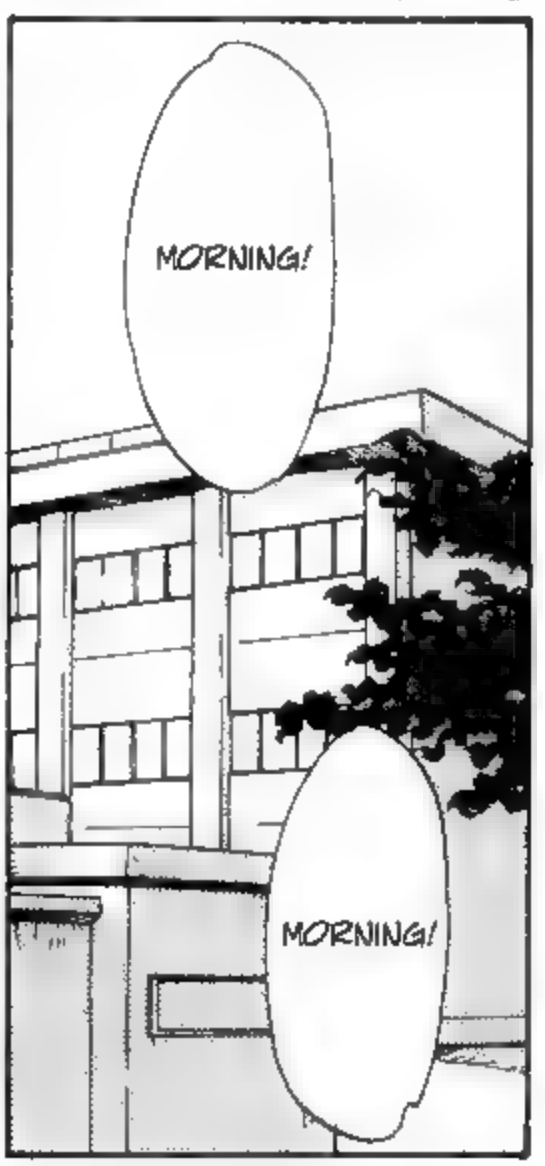
* Octopus dumplings.

BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

Hmph!
I WASN'T IN THERE THAT LONG. DON'T GET MAD...
SLAM!!
I'M NOT GOING TO SCHOOL TOMORROW.
SHUU ...
SORRY.
YOU'RE TAKING TOO LONG!



YEAH, BIG SURPRISE, huh?
Woh! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
I DIDN'T EVEN REC-OGNIZE YOU FOR A SEC.


MORNING!
MORNING!

[Sign: Grade 5, Class 3]

Yababs

DID EVERYONE HAVE A NICE WINTER VACATION?

STAND.

BOW.

5年3組

SIT.

Ha! Ha! Ha!

Ugh! Don't remind me!

AND YOU STILL HAVE HOMEWORK TO DO, huh?

THE VACATION WAS TOO SHORT.

YO-CHAN, LUNCHTIME!

WHAT ABOUT LUNCH?

I'M EATING OUT.

WELCOME!

CHEESE-BURGER.

Y-

WILL YOU BE EATING HERE?

YEAH...

CHEESE-BURGER AND A COKE. JUST A MOMENT.

Oh...

AND A COKE.

THAT...

...WAS PRETTY SCARY.

tok

NO ONE HERE KNOWS ME, RIGHT?

UHM'S

Whew

FIRST TIME YOU'VE BEEN OUT LIKE THIS?

JUNIOR HIGH?

Huh?

Un...

YEAH.

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU JUST FINISHED A LONG DAY AT WORK OR SOMETHING!

How cute!

WHAT'S UP WITH HER?

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

THANKS ...

POROPO

LET ME BUY YOU SOME FRIES.

THAT'S OK.

REALLY...

NITORI SHUUICHI ...

SHUU-KUN, hm?

YOUR NAME.

IF WE MEET AGAIN, LET'S HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER.

Bye-bye!

HERE'S MY CELL NUMBER.

BUT YOU PROBABLY WON'T CALL, *huh?*

WELL, JUST IN CASE.

I'M SORRY, NITORI-KUN...

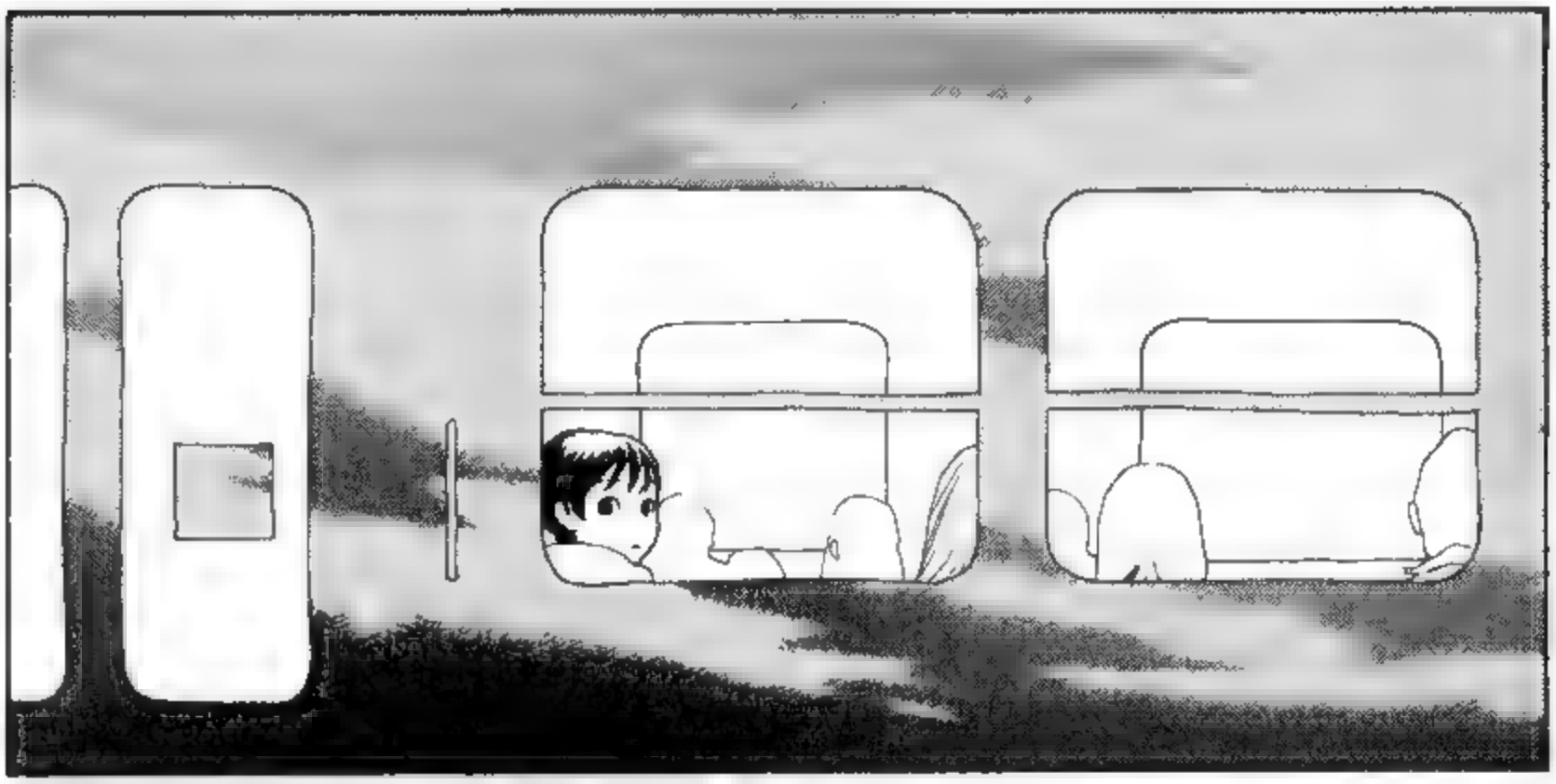
A WOMAN JUST HIT ON ME...

THAT ROCKS! THAT ROCKS! THAT ROCKS!

FOR NTOB--
RUN AND
TAKATSUKI
SAN...

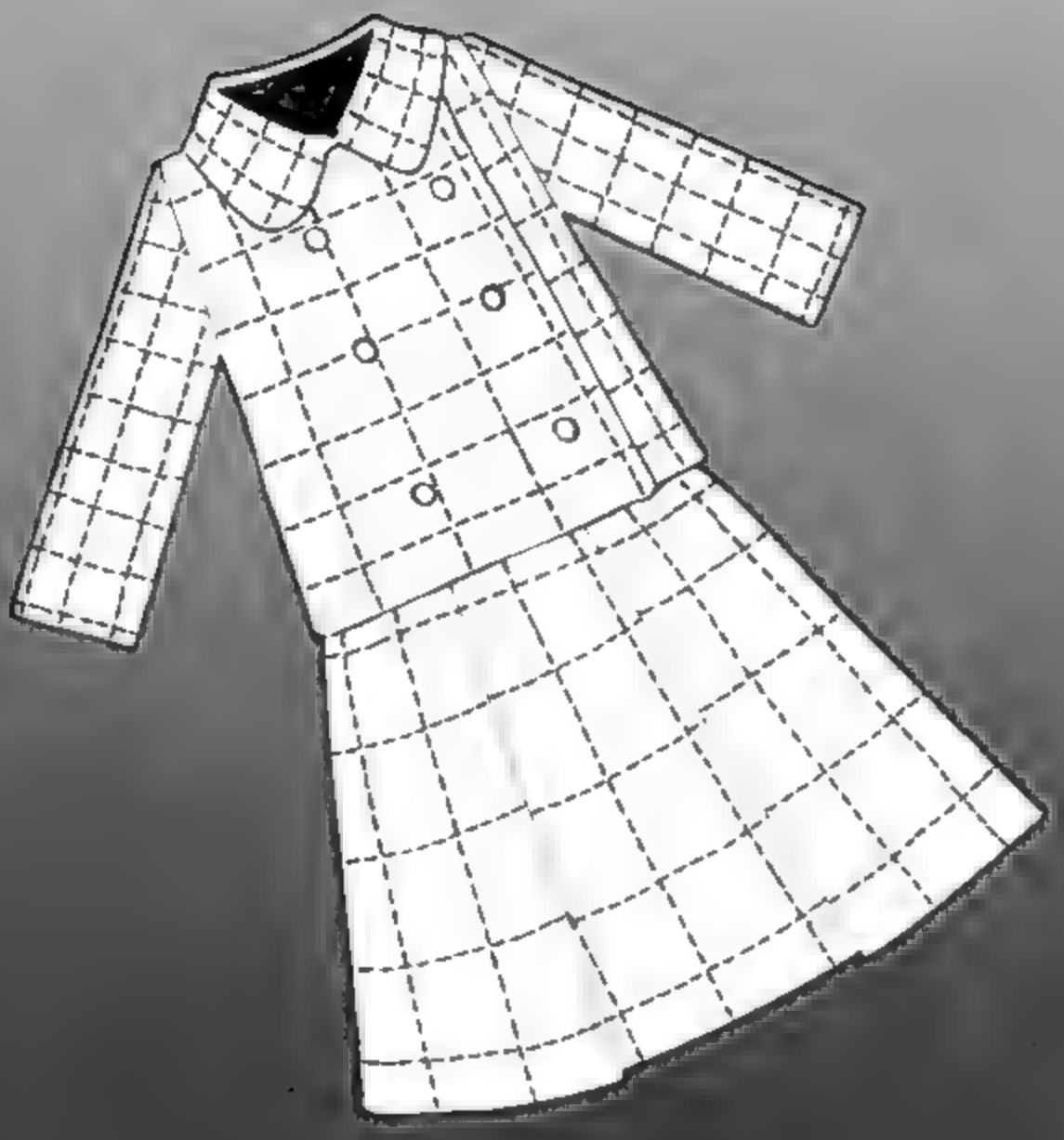
!

...THIS WAS
BEFORE THEY
DISCOVERED
EACH OTHER'S
SECRET

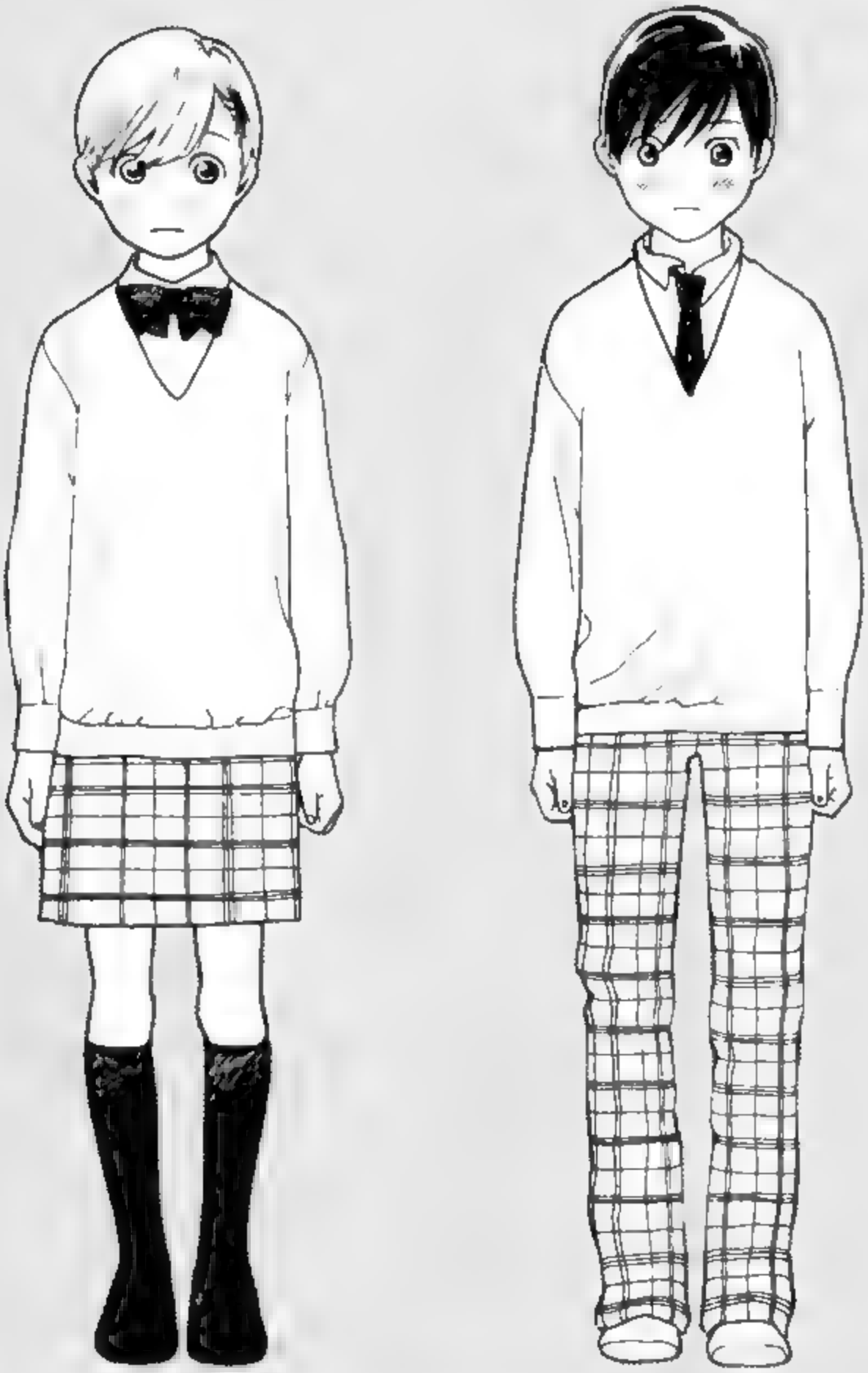


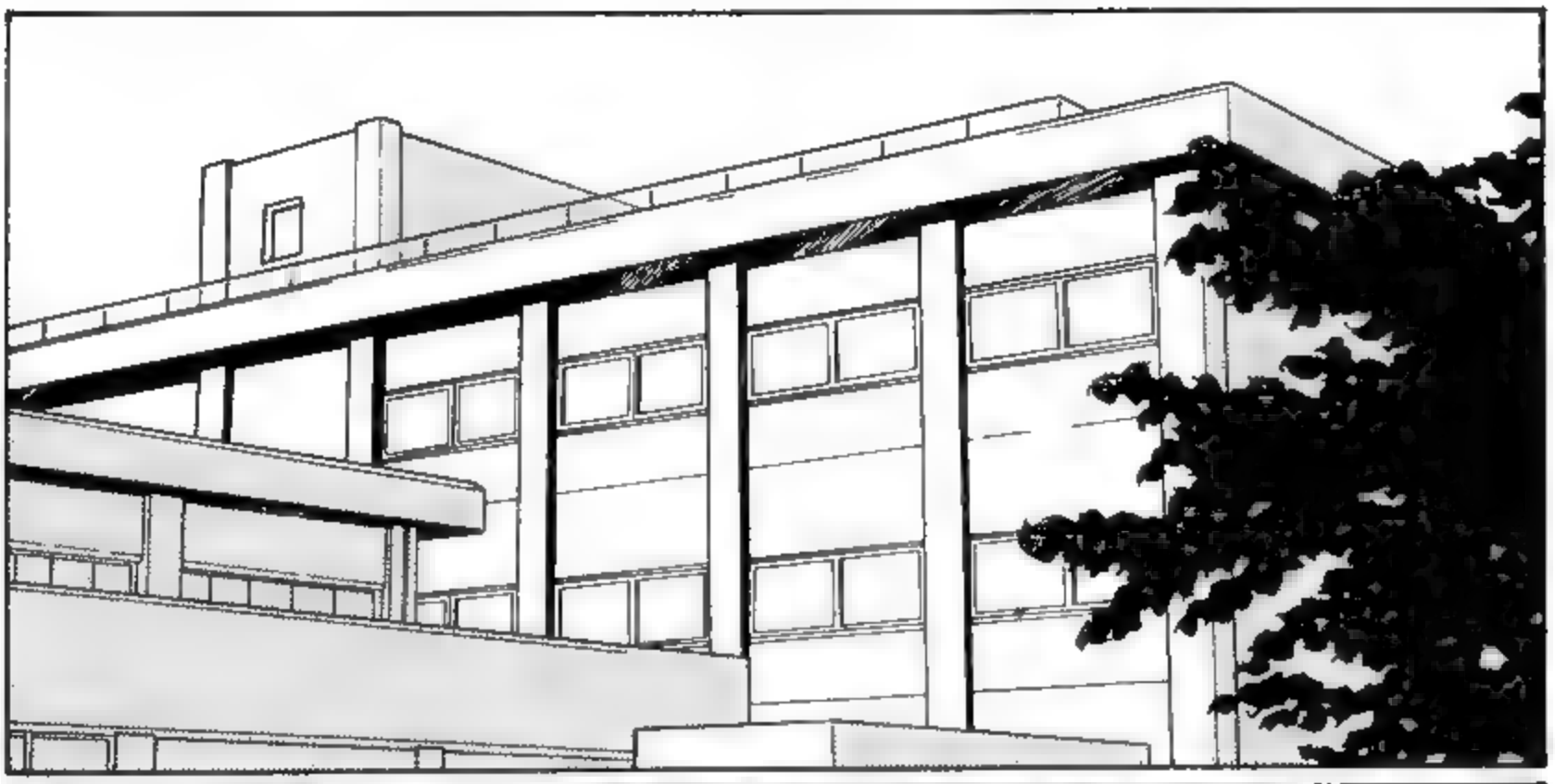
*Both are steamed pastries filled with sweet meats or pizza filling.

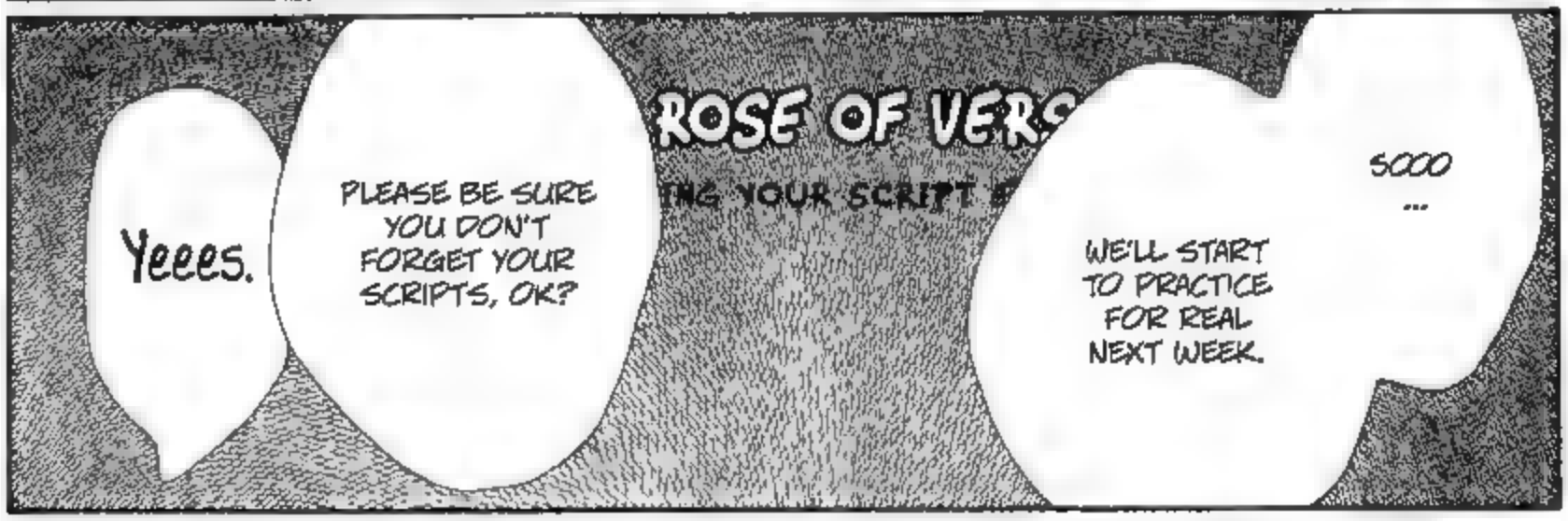
I LIKE THINGS THAT ARE A BIT OLD-FASHIONED.



5 Natori-kun's Birthday






ROSE OF VER
TING YOUR SCRIPT
Yeees.
PLEASE BE SURE YOU DON'T FORGET YOUR SCRIPTS, OK?
WE'LL START TO PRACTICE FOR REAL NEXT WEEK.
SOOO ...

WHAAAAT ?
YEAH.
Oh?
TODAY'S YOUR BIRTHDAY, NITORI-KUN?

AND PRACTICE FOR THE MARATHON STARTING FROM NEXT WEEK, TOO.
AFTERNOON MEETING
6TH GRADERS' FAREWELL PARTY
HE ROSE OF VERSAILLES
BRING YOUR SCRIPT EVERYDAY
NO WAAY!

IF NEXT WEEK'S OK, I'LL GET YOU SOME-THING.

YEAH.

IF YOU'D SAID SOMETHING, I WOULD'VE GOT A PRESENT FOR YOU.

IT'S OK. I DON'T NEED ANYTHING.

THEN WHEN IT'S MY TURN, GET ME SOMETHING!

He He He!

Your birthday is way past!

NITORI-KUN, ARE YOU FREE TOMORROW?

TODAY'S SHUU-CHAN'S BIRTHDAY...

Ah

YEAH.

Whoops!

Oh, MY GOD!

I'M SO SORRY!

WHAT DO YOU WANT? WE CAN GO GET IT TOMORROW.

IT'S OK. YOU DON'T HAVE TO...

HONEY, GO GET A CAKE, RIGHT NOW!

Oh!

I'M SORRY!

Awww!

Hey, he's not like you!

HE'S SULKING!

IT'S OK. REALLY!

I'LL GO, TOO!

YEAH, YEAH.

I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU.

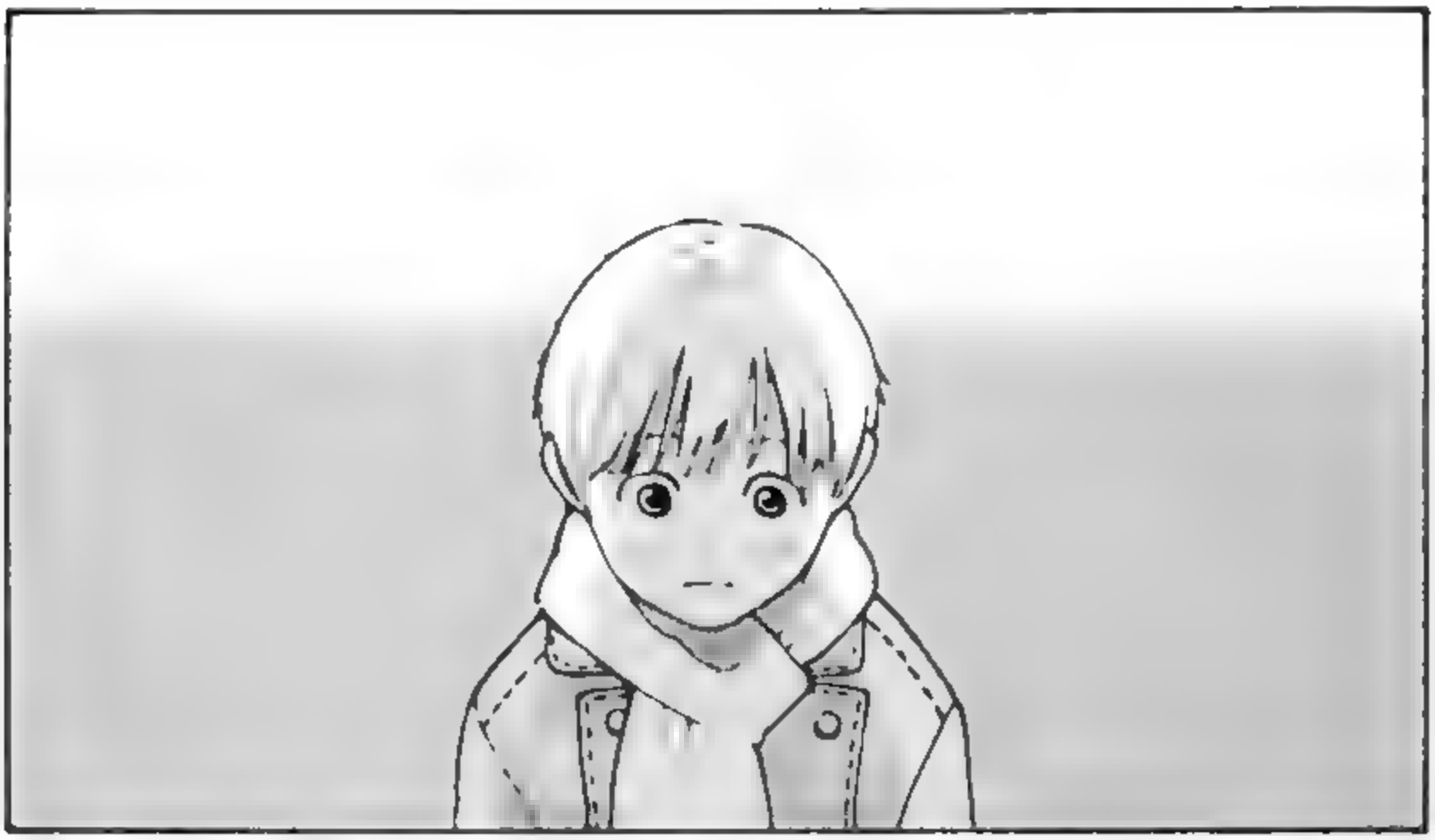
IT'S CUTE...

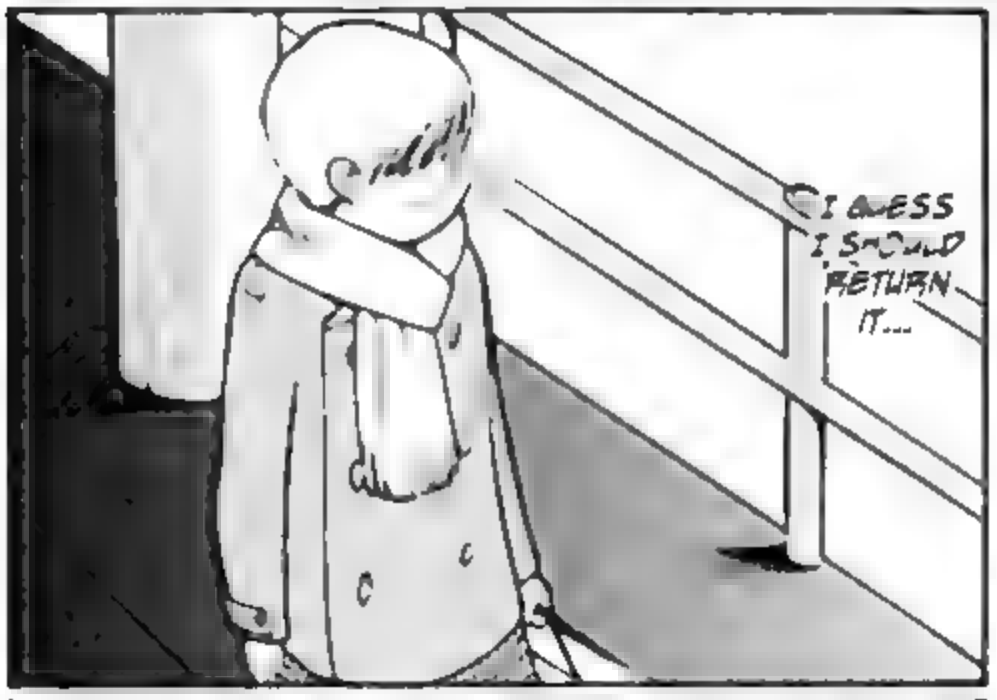
I BOUGHT IT WITH THE LAST OF MY *OTOSHI-DAMA**.

Huh?

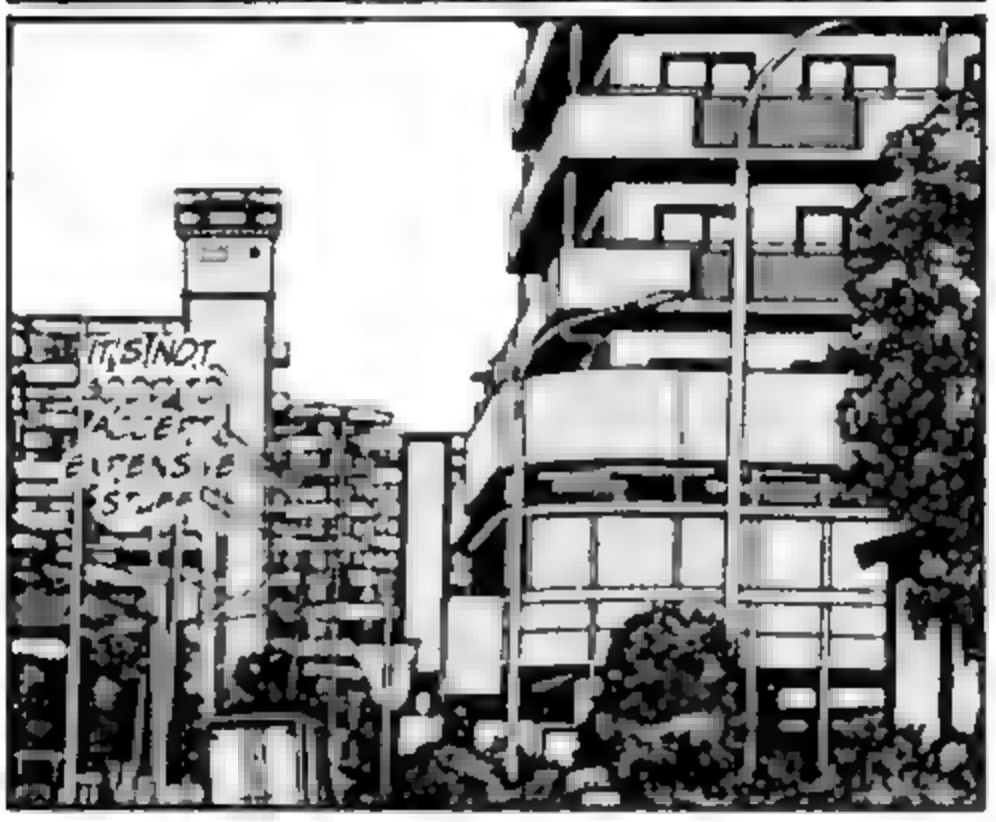
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

*Otoshi-dama *is New Year's money given to children.*




I GUESS I SHOULD RETURN IT....

I LET MYSELF TAKE IT..


IT IS NOT

AND IT MIGHT HURT CHIBA-SAN'S FEELINGS...

BUT HOW? IT'LL BE HARD TO RETURN WITHOUT A RECEIPT.

YEAH, I'LL RETURN IT.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Wow!

I WAS JUST GOING OVER TO YOUR PLACE.

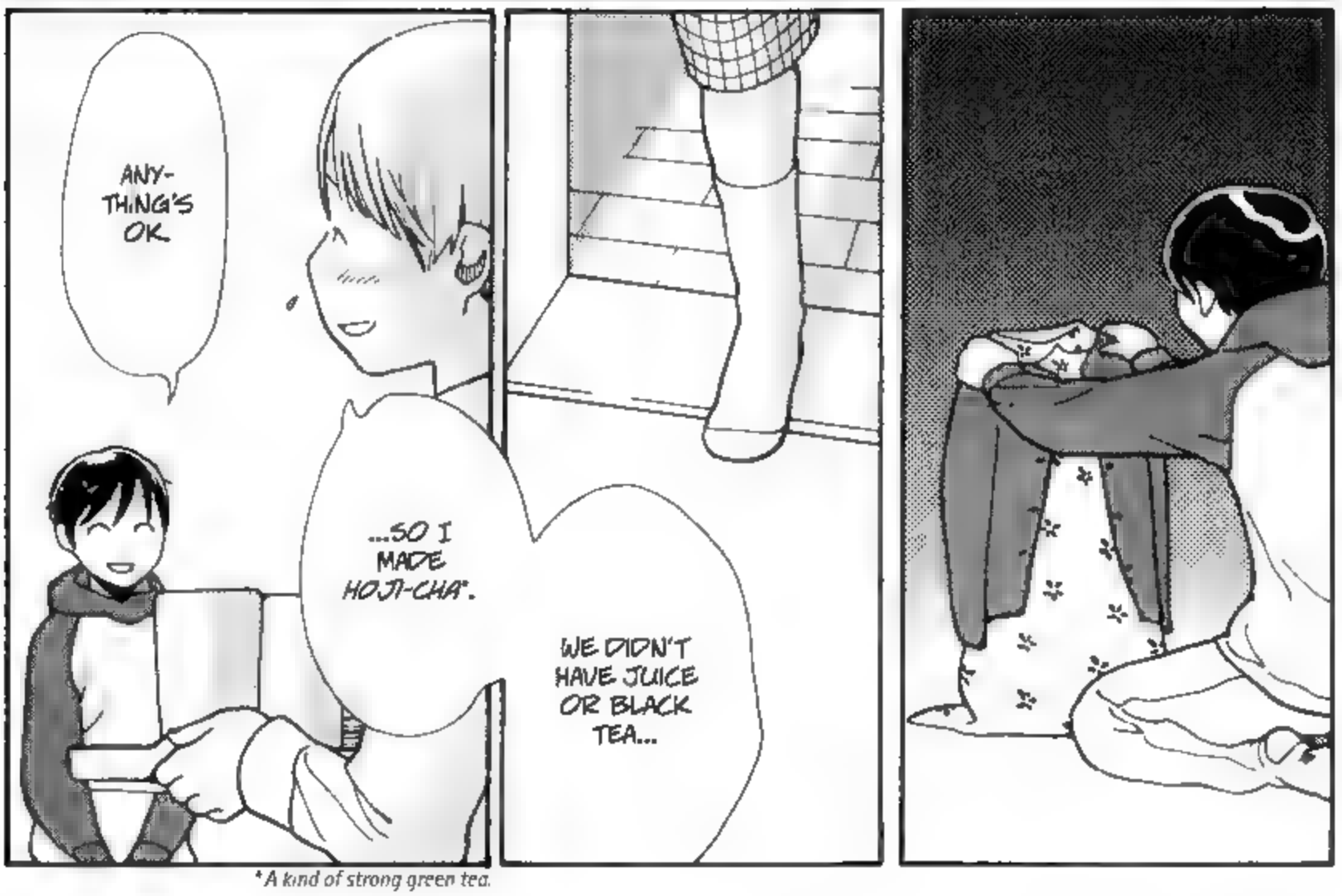
REALLY?

Oh!

NITORI-KUN.

TAKATSUKI-SAN.

DON'T MIND ME.
I'LL MAKE SOME TEA.
DID YOU BUY SOME-THING?
THIS?
IT'S FROM CHIBA-SAN.
WONDER WHAT CHIBA-SAN GOT HIM?
KO.
KO.
It's Maiko-chan.



*A kind of strong green tea.

To Nitori-kun
Happy Birthday

DRINK IT BEFORE IT GETS COLD.

YOUR TEA.

THANKS.

Oh...

SEE WHAT?

DID YOU SEE...?

DID...

Uuh, HOT ...

Sip

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.

THANKS FOR HAVING ME.

NOTHING.

NEVER MIND...

Huh?

I DID SEE IT.

SORRY.

SHUU-CHAN, TELEPHONE.

click

IT'S A CHIBA-SAN...

I FORGOT TO GIVE THESE TO YOU EARLIER.

SEE YOU TOMORROW.

BYE-BYE.

NEXT TIME, LET ME TAKE A PICTURE, OK?

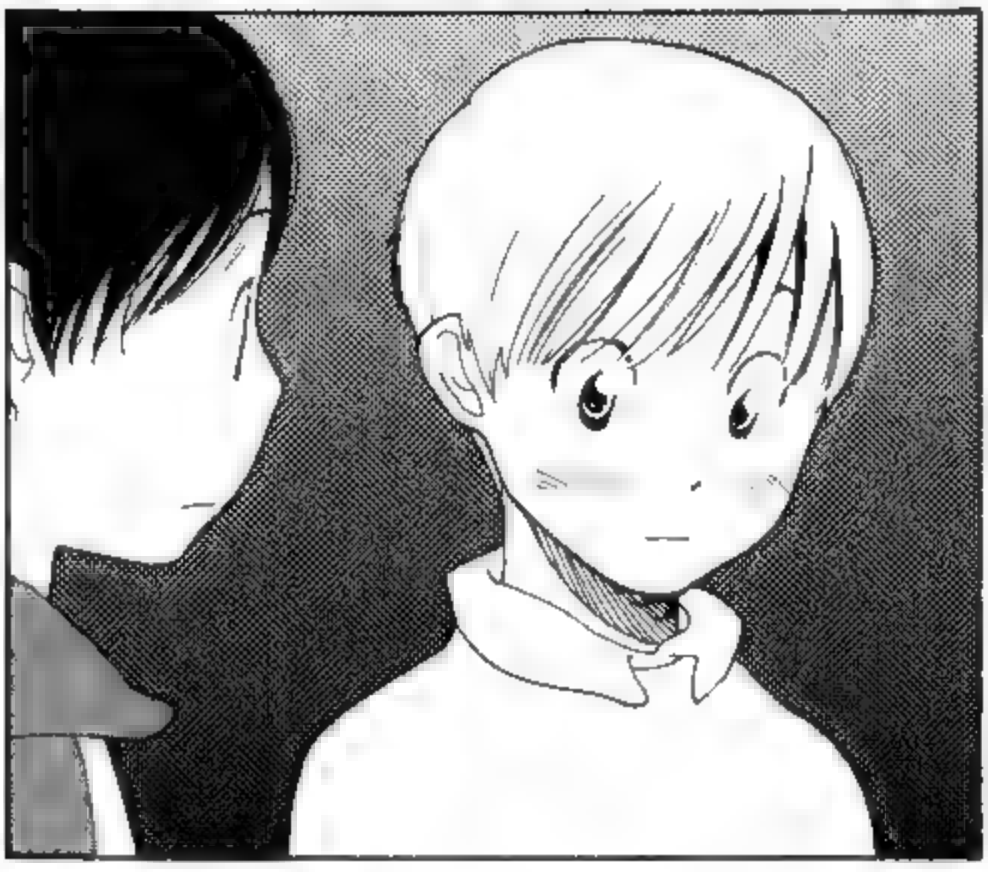
CLICK

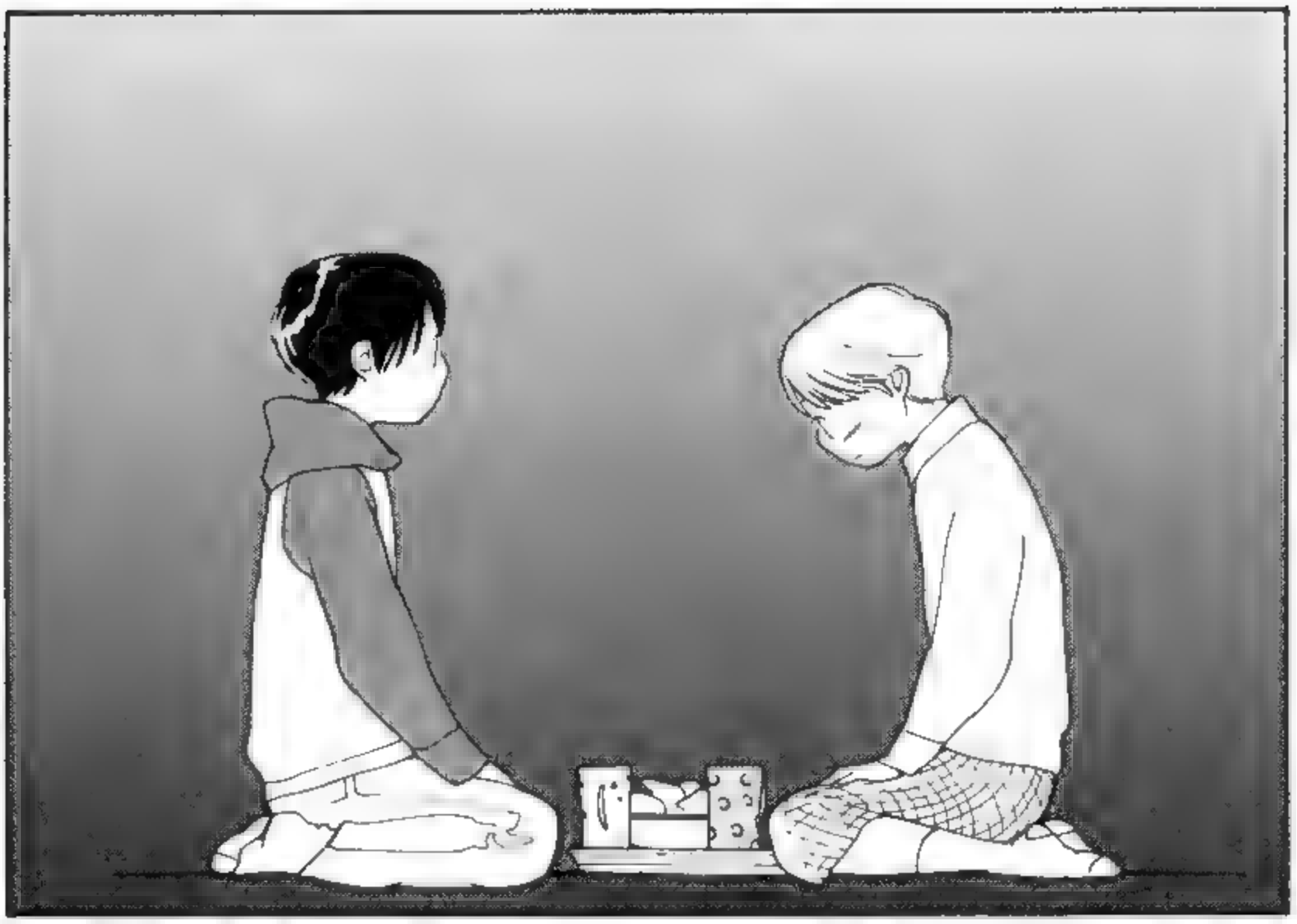
Oh MAN, WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

16 Words of a Friend

ding dong

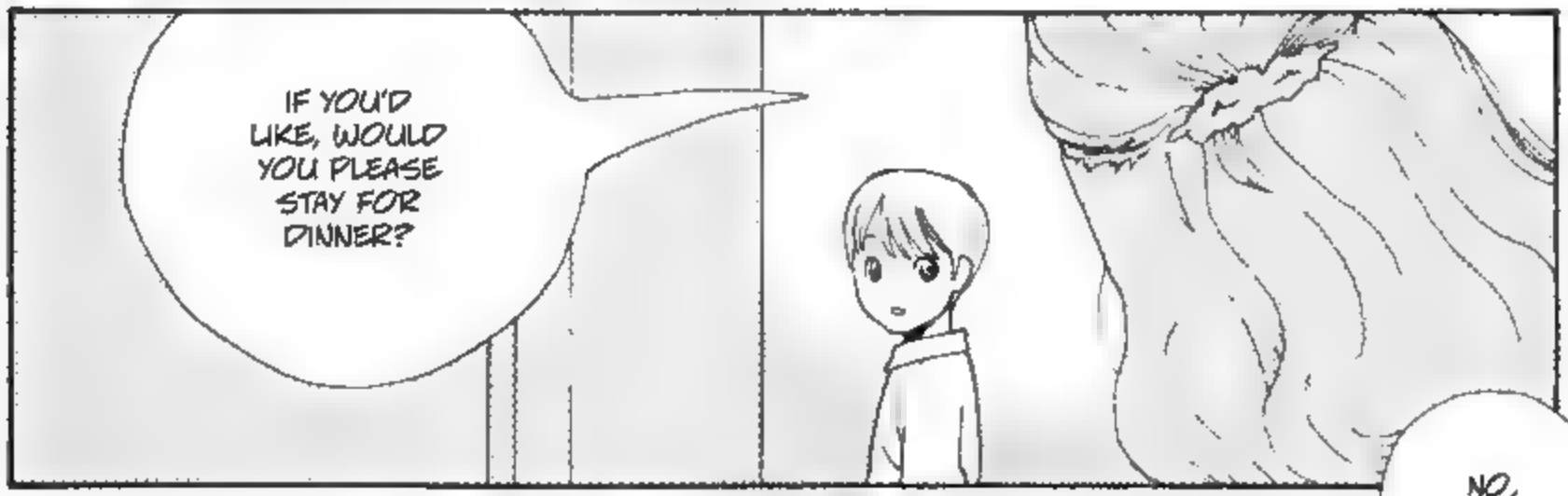
TH-THANK YOU.
STAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.




THAT'S SOMETHING CHIBA-SAN WOULD DO ALL RIGHT.
THAT'S WHY...
CHIBA-SAN WANTS TO DRESS ME UP LIKE THAT...

EXCUSE ME...
E-

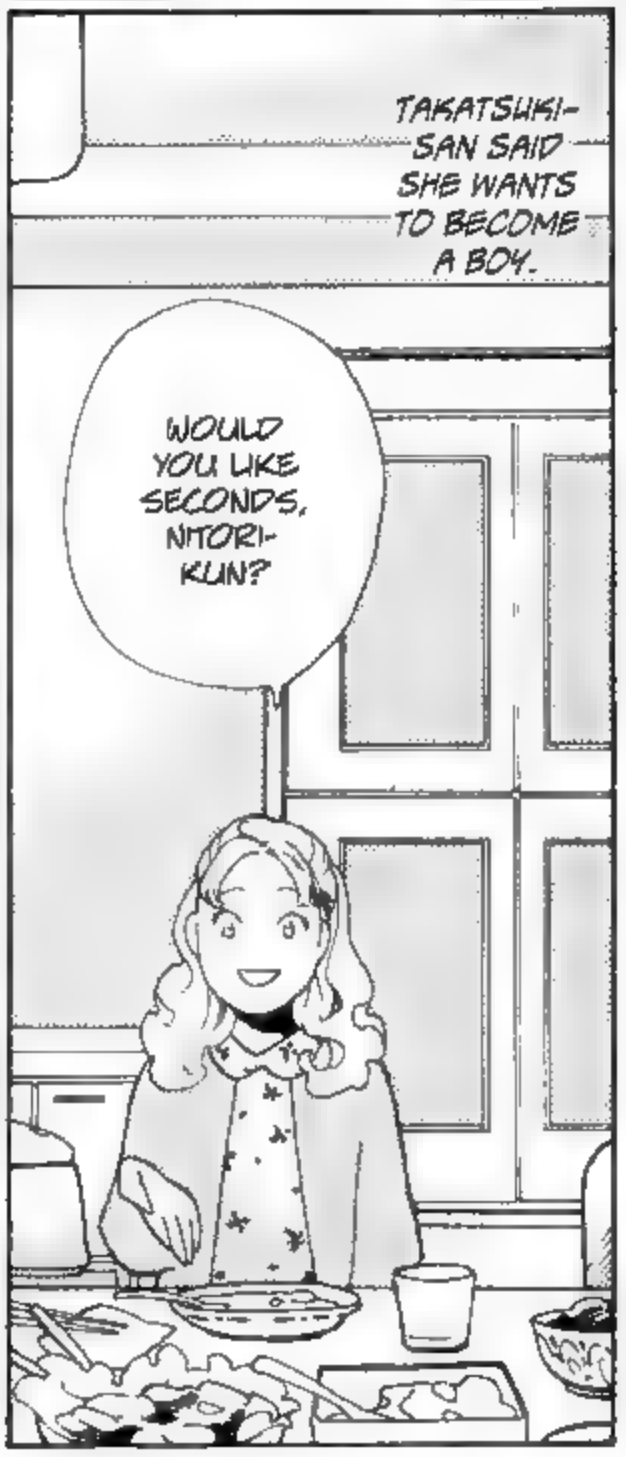
I DON'T REALLY ...


IF YOU'D LIKE, WOULD YOU PLEASE STAY FOR DINNER?

NO, IT'S FINE.
WE'LL JUST KEEP HIM FOR DINNER.
THANKS FOR LETTING US HAVE HIM.

I WEAR THAT SOMETIMES.

I'M FULL.
NO, THANK YOU.
DON'T HESITATE TO ASK, OK?


TAKATSUKI-SAN SAID SHE WANTS TO BECOME A BOY.
WOULD YOU LIKE SECONDS, NITORI-KUN?

SORRY ...

WHY ...?

I'M SORRY.

Huh?

I'M SORRY.

I'M REALLY HAPPY YOU THOUGHT OF ME, BUT I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS.

[Container Fire Extinguisher]

消火器

[Book The Rose of Versailles]

OKAAAY.

SO OSCAR AND FERSEN BOTH STAND HERE.

...NITORI-KUN WOULD BE BETTER SUITED FOR ROSALIE THAN OSCAR...

WE WERE JUST READING THROUGH, AND IT OCCURRED TO US...

WHAT?

Huh?

Now that ya mention it...

HOW ABOUT IT, ISHI-KUN?

SO I GET TO BE OSCAR?

...

NOW, NOW ...

ROSALIE IS...

YOU DON'T HAVE THE LOOKS TO BE OSCAR-SAMA!

WHAAT

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

[Sign. Grade 5, Class 3]

THINGS KEEP GETTING REFINED.

I GET TO WEAR A PRETTY DRESS AS MUCH AS I WANT.

BUT, CHIBA-SAN IS...

FINE, SO WE'LL CHANGE THE CASTING FOR OSCAR AND ROSALIE. THAT'S OK, RIGHT?

5年3組

...A SWEET, COURAGEOUS GIRL WHO YEARNS FOR OSCAR.

CHIBA-SAN IS...

[Book: The Rose of...]

OK, WE'RE GOING.

THE TRASH ALL COLLECTED?

YEP.

SO YOU RETURNED IT TO CHIBA-SAN?

YEAH.

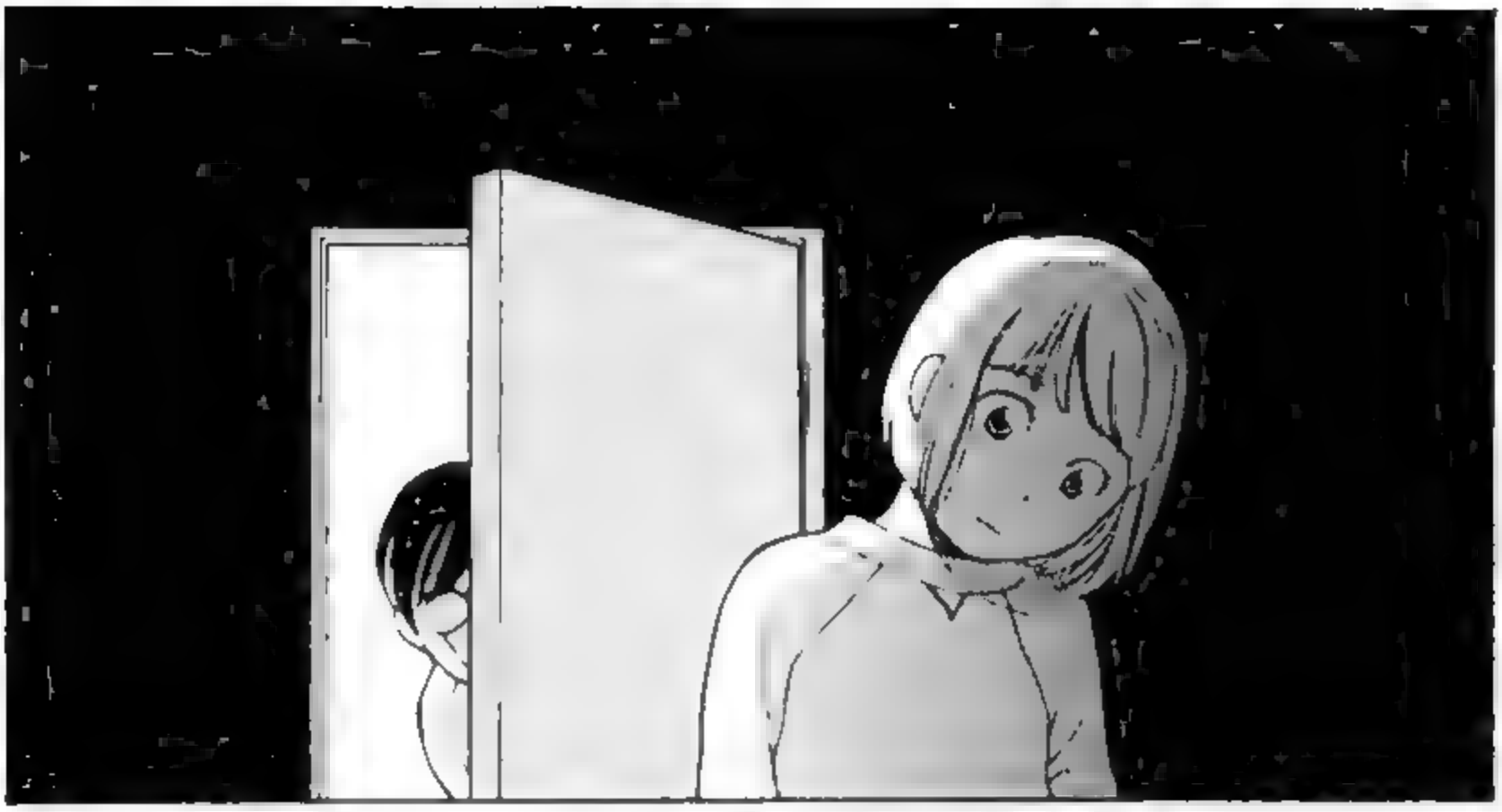
CRACKL

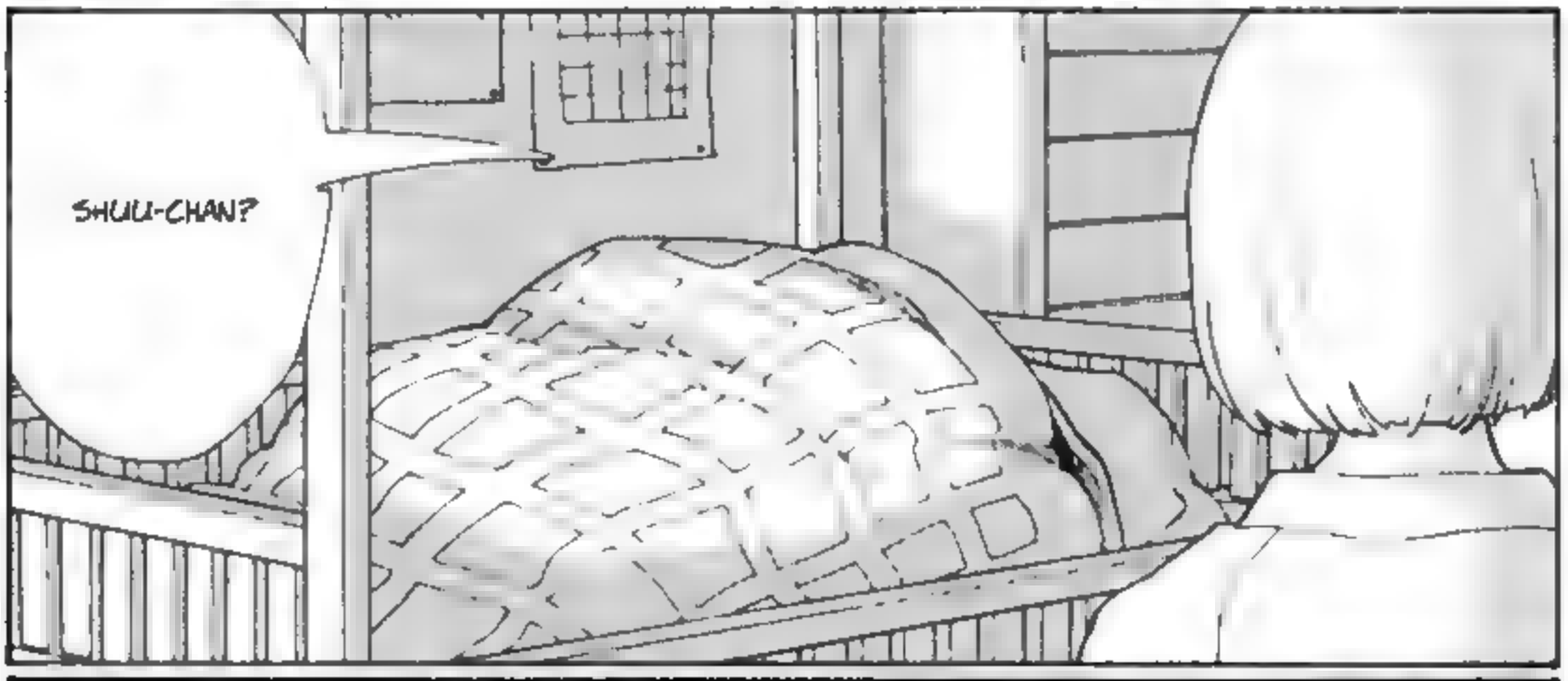
CRACKL

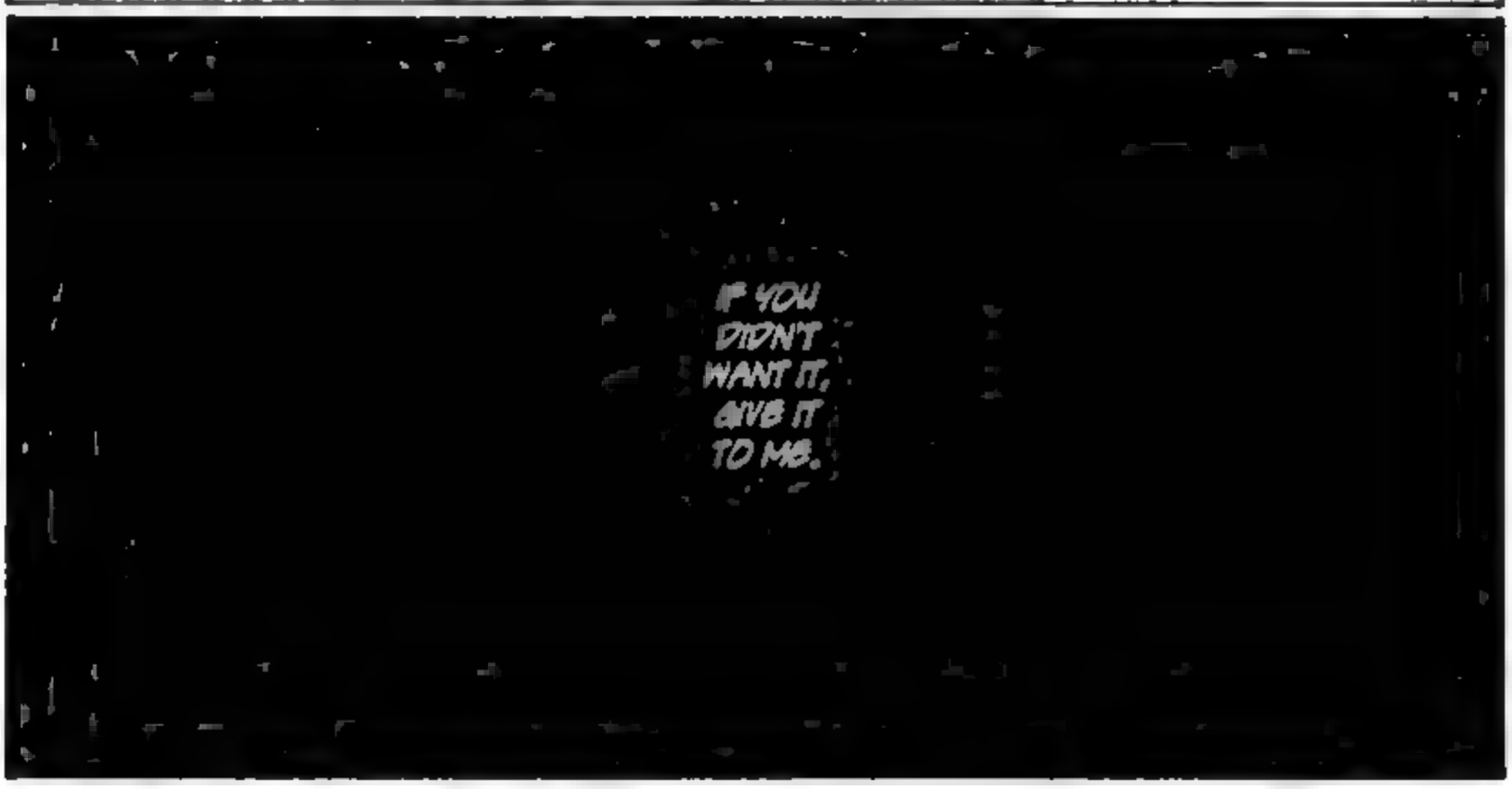
CRACKL

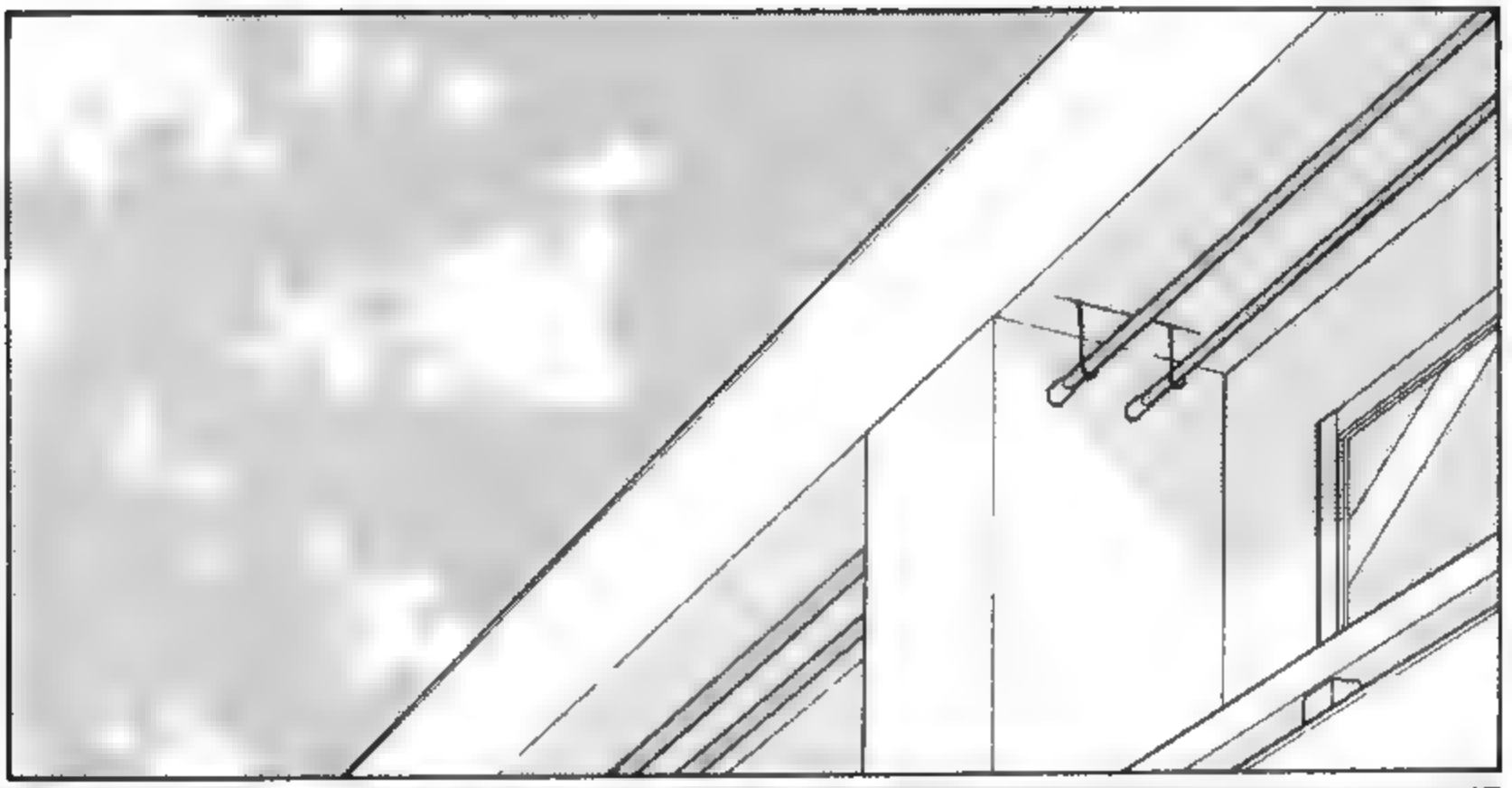
cough!

TOSS
ROARRR
CLUNK
RODDaaR
ROOOa




SHUU-CHAN?


IF YOU DIDN'T WANT IT, GIVE IT TO ME.



Hey!
HE'S NOT YOU.

HE'S FAKING!
FEEL LIKE THROWING UP?
YOU DON'T HAVE A FEVER.

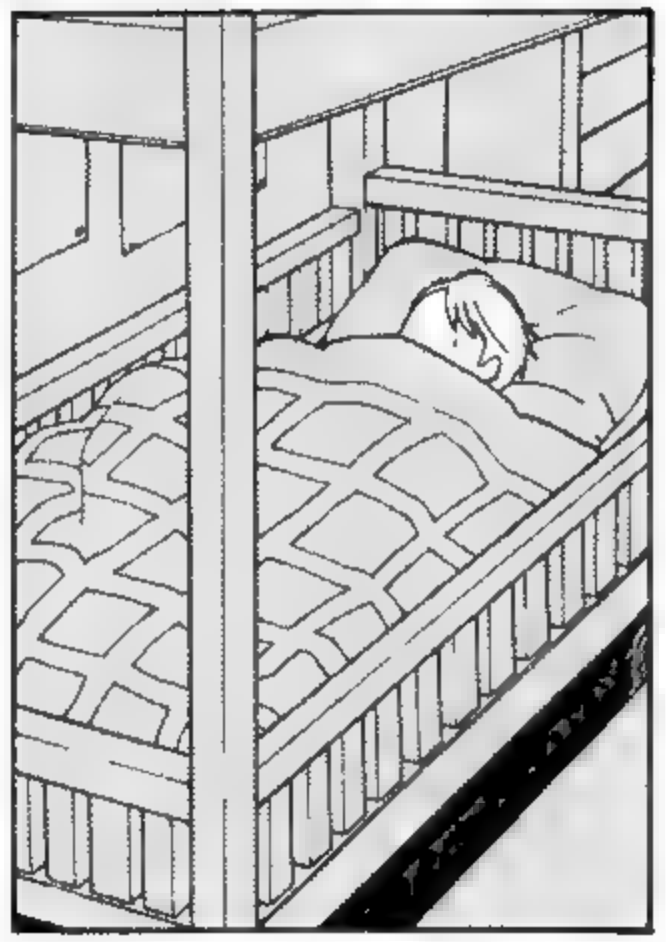
ALL RIGHT...
I'VE GOT TO GO. STAY IN BED AND DON'T WATCH TV, OK?

OK, LET'S BEGIN CLASS.
NITORI-KUN'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'S ABSENT TODAY, hm?

友情
Growwwl

stir
stir
stir
stir
stir
stir

HUNGRY



TIME TO TAKE ATTEN-DANCE...

pour

HERE.

NITORI-KUN?

NOW CHIBA-SAN'S ABSENT, huh?

I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE COMING BACK.

GIMME A BREAK...

MOM SAID YOU SHOULD COME FOR DINNER.

REALLY?

I'LL BE OVER AFTER I DROP OFF MY BAG.

OK.

TAKATSUKI-KUN, YOU BUSY?

I WEAR IT AND GET ON A TRAIN AND RIDE REAL FAR.

...WEAR THAT SOMETIMES.

THANK YOU.

WELCOME!

Oh!

IT'S TAKATSUKI-KUN. I'LL GET IT.

JUST THAT, BUT...

ding dong

WHAT? JUST FOR SHUU?

Awww, no fair!

HERE, A GIFT.

IT'S FOR NITORI-KUN...

WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

LOFT

SHUU'S GONNA WEAR THAT?!
SEEMS INTERESTING!
MY SISTER'S HAND-ME-DOWN.

Ah, geez! STOP STOMPING AROUND!

IT SHOULD BE IN DAD'S ROOM SOMEWHERE.

WHAAAT ?!

CAMERA! CAMERA! CAMERA!

THUD THUD THUD

MOM! MOM! MOM!

OK, SAY CHEESE!

Whoa!

IT LOOKS *GOOD* ON YOU!

Ha! Ha! Ha!

NO ONE WILL FIGURE IT OUT?

IT'LL BE OK. YOU'RE CUTE, AFTER ALL.

THE NEXT DAY, CHIBA-SAN WAS ABSENT AGAIN.

MEET YOU AT TWO, OK?

YEAH.

YOU'LL BE NERVOUS THE FIRST TIME, THOUGH.

LUNCH IS READY.

STOP STARING AT THAT UNIFORM ALREADY!

Oh, GOD!

IF YOU ARE... I'D BE REALLY HAPPY.

BUT...

NITORI-KUN...

ARE YOU SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE A GIRL?

I'M ALSO VERY HAPPY

PLEASE FORGIVE ME SOMEHOW!

PLEASE!

AFTER DOING THAT HORRIBLE THING TO NITORI-KUN, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ... FACE HIM AGAIN.

DEAR GOD, I'M A BAD GIRL.

I KNOW HOW YOU LOVE SWEETS.

I MADE CHOCOLATE CAKES.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SA-CHAN?

Oh.

SA-CHAN, YOU'RE A CHRISTIAN?

NO, BUT I'M GOING TO BECOME ONE.

MOM, I WANT TO GO TO CHURCH.

I DO THINGS THAT REQUIRE PENANCE. I CAN'T GO BACK TO SCHOOL LIKE THIS.

GOD OVER-LOOKS MOST THINGS, RIGHT?

I'VE DONE SOMETHING HORRIBLE.

THAT'S NO GOOD.

THIS IS SOOO EMBAR-RASSING!

YEAH, AT FIRST.

YOU JUST HAVE TO GET USED TO THIS KIND OF THING.

IF SOMEONE FINDS OUT, I'LL...

NO ONE WILL FIND OUT.

I'M NOT GONNA DO IT AFTER ALL.

WHAAAT?

YOU'RE GIVIN' UP?

YEAH...

COWARD!

YOU'RE STRANGE FOR A FAGGOT.

SORRY I MADE YOU DO THIS.

BYE-BYE.

NITORI-KUN, WAKE UP. WE'RE HERE.

NITORI-KUN!

YEAH.

YOU ALWAYS COME THIS FAR?

Fujisawa Station.

End of the line: Fujisawa.

WE'RE HERE.

Huh?

LADIES

WHY THE LADIES' ROOM?

WHA...?

Whoa!

Huh?

I'M GONNA USE THE REST-ROOM WHILE WE'RE HERE.

IT'D BE WEIRD IF YOU CAME OUT OF THE MEN'S ROOM WEARING A SKIRT, WOULDN'T IT?

SLAM

AREN'T YOU EMBAR-RASSED?

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE A PISS IN THE NEXT STALL?

はいな

...NOT A COWARD...

I'M...

NITORI-KUN.

Huh?

I GOT MY PERIOD.

Y-

YEAH?

WHAT AM I GONNA DO?

YES! PERIOD! A PERIOD!

PERIOD ?

WHAT ??

CENTER-IN

¥290

THANK YOU.

THAT'S 290 YEN.

kachink

Oh MAN, THIS SUCKS!

SO IT REALLY DOES COME OUT OF THE BLUE.

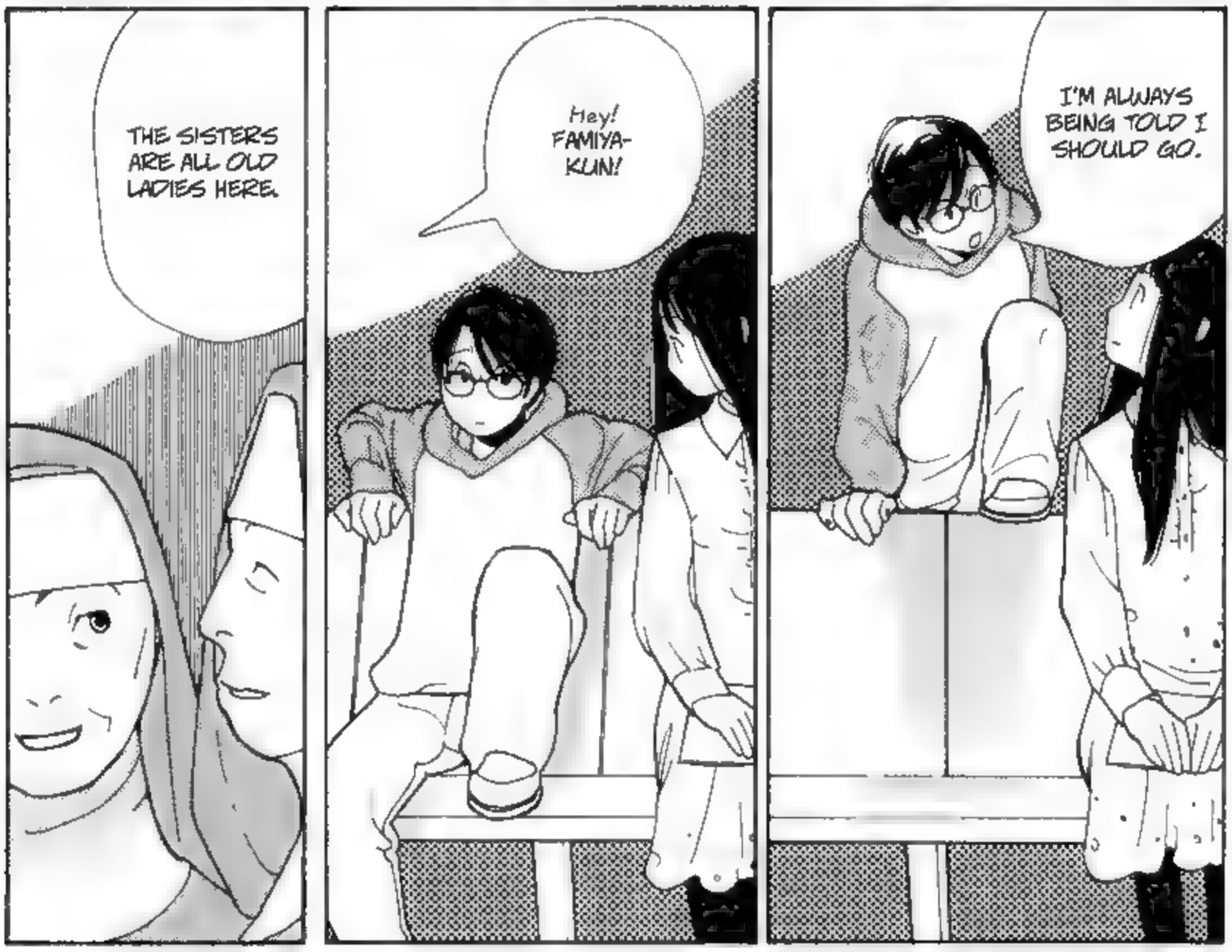
BEFORE I WENT OUT, I WAS ALL "WHAT AM I GONNA DO?"

I EVEN HAD A BAD DREAM ABOUT IT ON THE TRAIN.

I FEEL LIKE I ALSO HAD A BREAK-THROUGH.

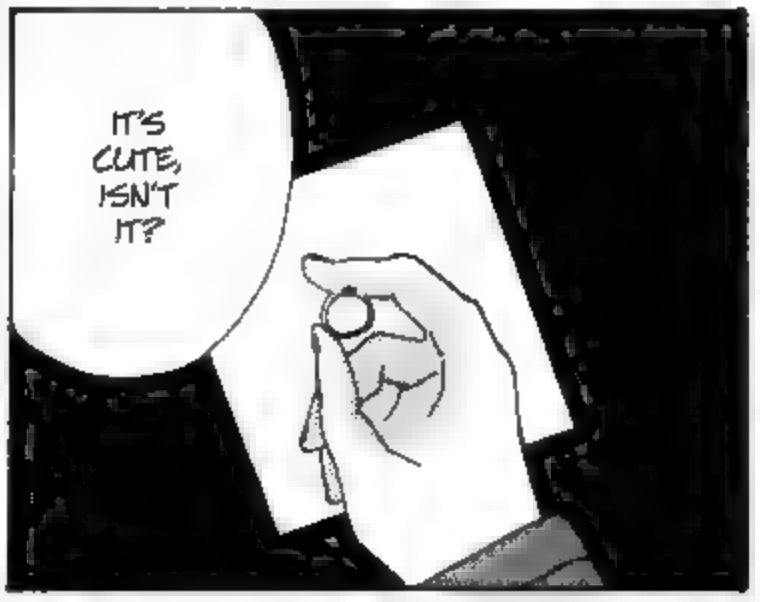
BACK THERE, YOU SAID THAT YOU CAME BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO. REALLY?

[Book: Sunday School's Guidebook]



IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE HERE, I GUESS I'LL COME EVERY WEEK, TOO.

AS A PRESENT.
Huh?
I'LL GET IT FOR YOU.


IT'S CUTE, ISN'T IT?

WILL YOU WEAR IT?

THAT WILL BE 500 YEN.

HERE.

I'LL TAKE THE PRICE TAG OFF THEN.

DON'T BOTHER. I HAD TO PAY YOU BACK FOR THE NAPKINS.

I'LL GET SOMETHING FOR YOU, TOO.

THANKS ...

Oh, HERE IT IS.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN AWFUL FOR IT TO COME RIGHT AS YOU GOT THERE.

YOU SIT OUT TOMOR-ROW'S P.E.

I'LL BE OK.

THIS SHOULD WORK JUST FINE.

SIGH

THIS IS TOTAL BULLSHIT.

SHORTS.

I'M TURNING OFF THE LIGHT.

CLICK

MAIK

NOT YET...

HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR PERIOD?

Huh?

ONEE CHAN ...

WHAT THE HELL?!

NO-

NOTHING! FORGET I ASKED!

EEEEK

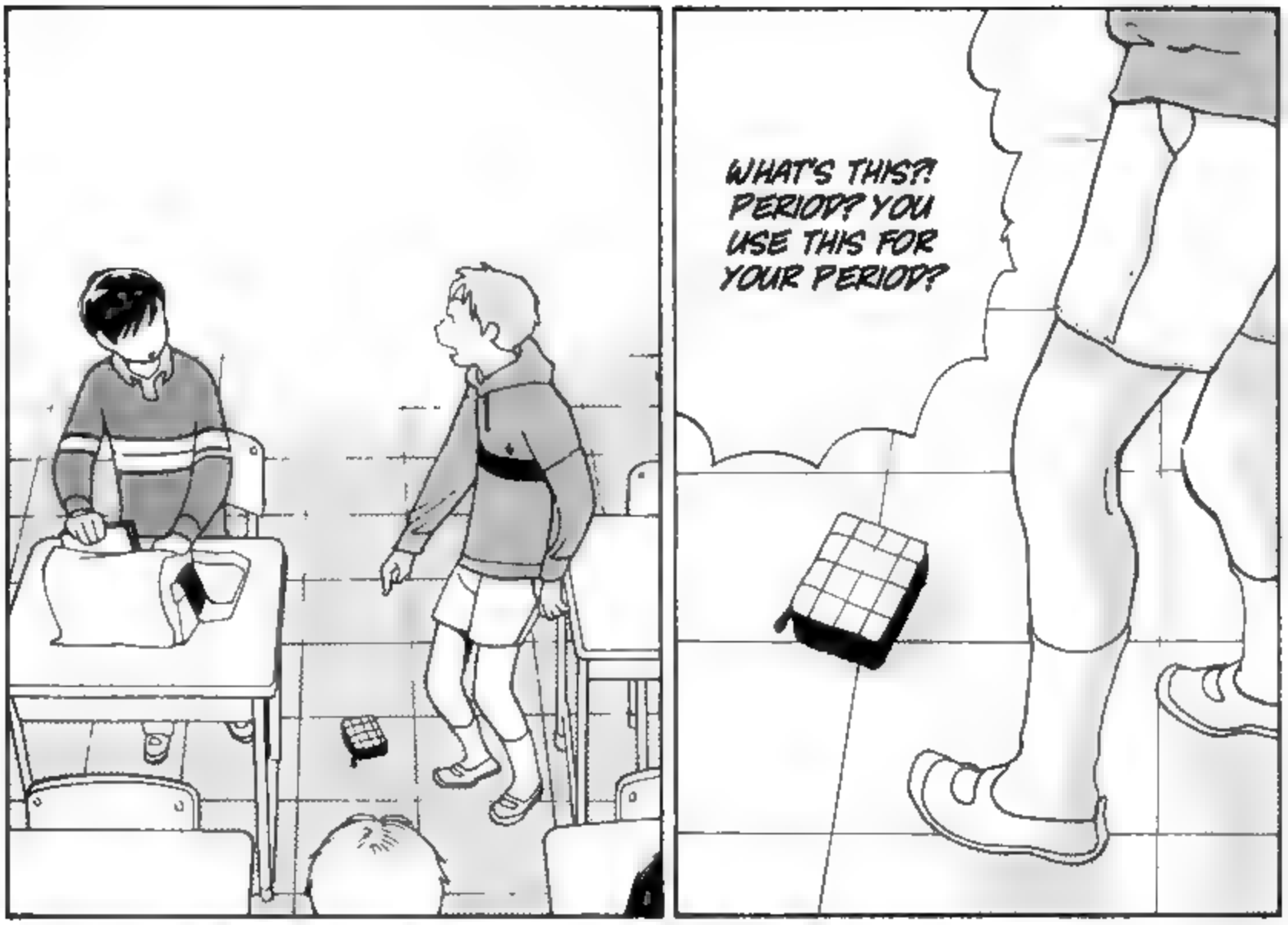
WEIRDO!

DEAR GOD, GIVE ME STRENGTH.

SA-CHAN, AREN'T YOU GOING TO BED?

AAAAAHHH!

PLEASE, PLEASE.... STRENGTH...


WHAT'S THIS?! PERIOD? YOU USE THIS FOR YOUR PERIOD?

I HAVE THEM, AIKAWA. IT'S CALLED DEVELOPMENT.
YOU SUCK!
DAMN!
I CAN'T GET A RISE OUT OF HER. HOW BORING.

LONG TIME NO SEE.

Oh, CHIBA-SAN!

HE REALLY SUCKS!

HE'S JUST A SEX-OBSESSED PERV.

HE'S ALWAYS TOUCHING AND BUMPING INTO YOU AND SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM, TAKATSUKI-KUN.

SO TIRED ...

LOOKS LIKE A JUMP ROPE TEST.

SPEAK LOUDLY AND CLEARLY!

TODAY'S P.E. IS BEING HELD IN THE GYM.

DON'T FORGET YOUR JUMP ROPES!

Month

Day

On Duty

TAKATSUKI

IT'S SO NICE OUT.

WE'RE GONNA BE JUMPING, HOPPING...

THIS SUCKS.

FSSSSHH

GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG

Oh, CRAP!

AIKAWA

HAYASHI

ANDOU

IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP SOON, YOU'RE GONNA GET YELLED AT.

I KNOW.

SO YOU REALLY ARE ON YOUR PERIOD?

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?

AIKAWA

HAYASHI

NOOOTHIN'.

CATCH

INDOU

HEADS UP!

NO WAY!

GIVE IT BACK, ASSHOLE!

Hey!

LEMME SEE!

AIKAWA

GOOD TO BE PREPARED ON HEAVY DAYS, eh?

PADS!

SO YOU'RE A GIRL AFTER ALL, TAKA-TSUKI!!!!

Heh! Heh! Heh! Heh!

Oh! I KNEW IT!

AIKAWA

Hm?

JUST YOU GUYS?

HAVE YOU SEEN TAKATSUKI-SAN?

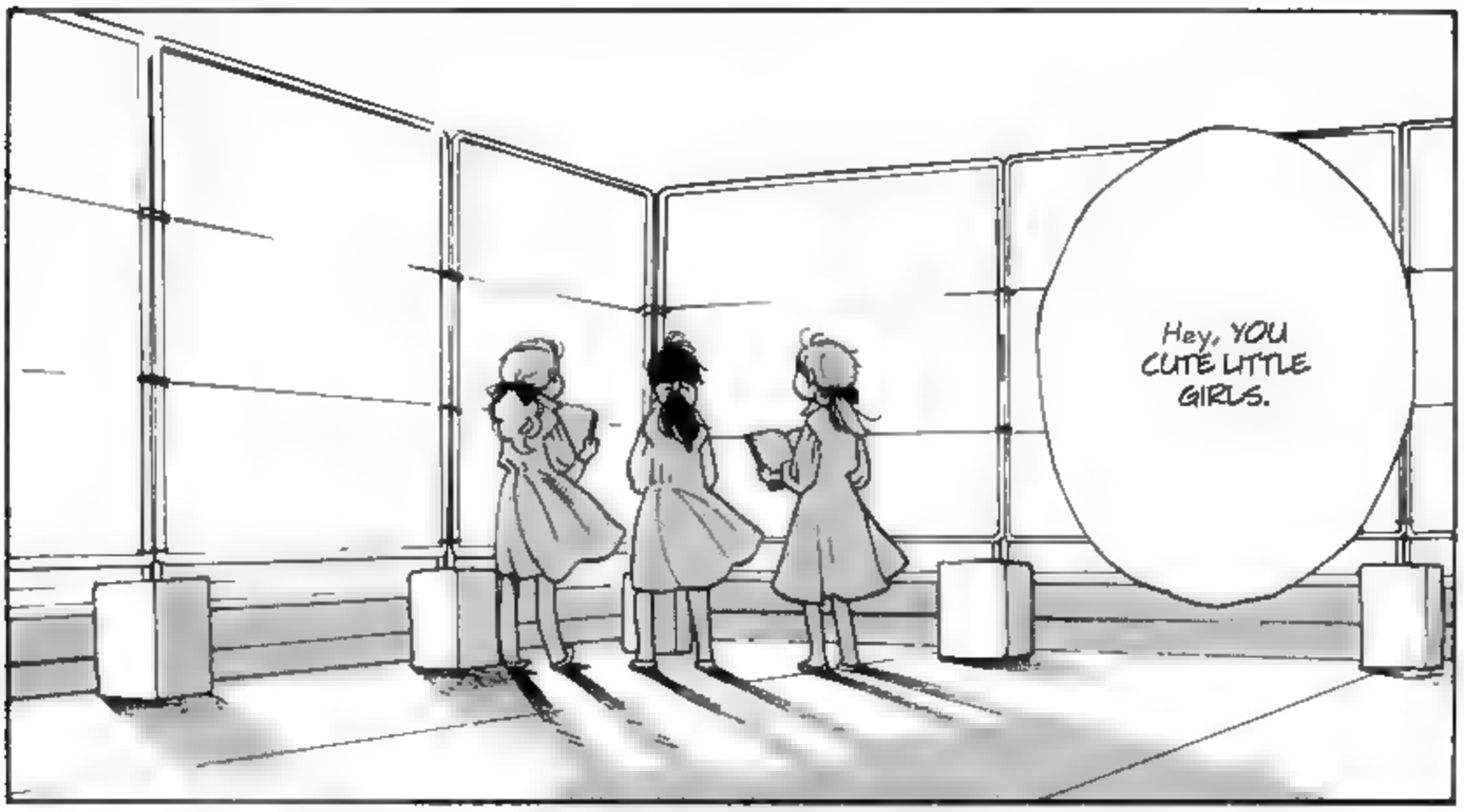
Huh?

SENSEI WAS SURPRISED.
EVERYONE WAS SURPRISED.
EVEN THOSE THREE GUYS WERE SURPRISED.

TAKATSUKI-SAN...
TAKATSUKI-KUN...

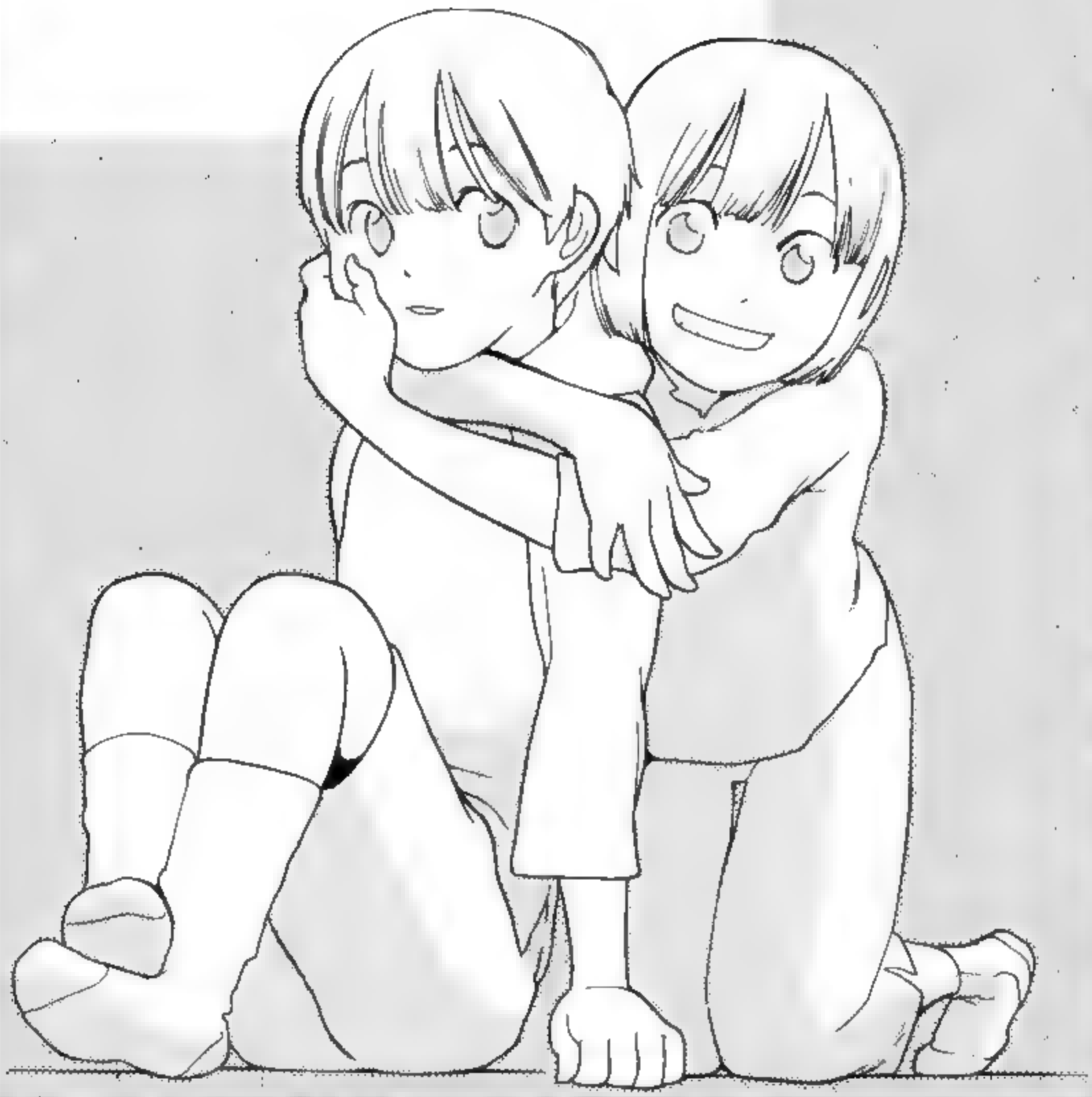
...

...WENT HOME IN TEARS.



[Book: The Rose of Versailles]

8 Everything I Want



BUT THE GATES WILL BE CLOSING SOON, OK?

I ALSO HAVE TO LOCK UP HERE.

Hm... It hurts!

HI HI HI

R-

REALLY?

ALL OF THE 6TH GRADERS ARE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS.

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

THANKS!!

BUT YOU'VE GOT NO PROBLEM.

Huh?

YOU'RE CUTE. SHIT!

THE 6TH GRADERS LAUGHED AT US.

Oh, MAN!

THAT TOTALLY SUCKED!

SENSEI! THEY'RE BACK!

Oh, THE BOYS ARE BACK.

I WANNA BE BEAUTI-FUL, TOO!

GOOD BYYYE!

BOW.

5年3組

OK THEN.

STAND.

rattle

rattle

rattle

OOKAY!

OK, LET'S GO!

EVERYONE GO HOME IN GROUPS NOW.

NO ONE SHOULD GO HOME ALONE.

BYE-BYE!

NITOBI-KUN, I'M SO SORRY.

I STAYED HOME FOR A WHILE.

TAKATSUKI-SAN ISN'T ONE TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL, RIGHT?

I'LL TELL YOU THE TRUTH, CHIBA-SAN.

YEAH.

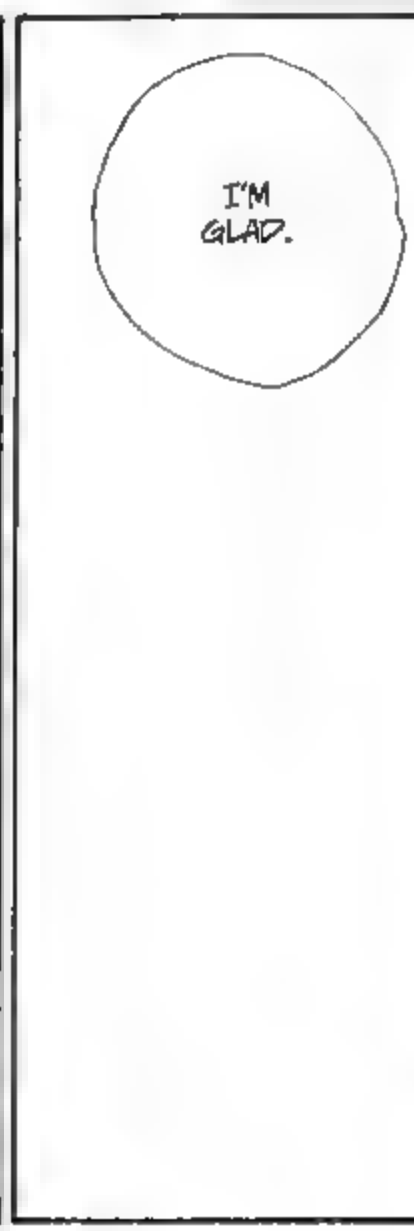
I'M SORRY, TOO.

WE'RE BAD. BOTH OF US.

I DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO PROPERLY APOLOGIZE IN PERSON, SO I'M WRITING THIS LETTER.

ME TOO. ONE DAY.

TAKATSUKI-SAN ALSO KNOWS.



[Book The Rose of Versailles]

-
YEAH.
DEFINITELY.
YEAH.
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN A GIRL.

Wow, YOU GUYS ARE PROFES-SIONAL.

PRACTICE? TODAY TOO?

REALLY?!

MAHO, YOUR CLOTHES SHOULD ARRIVE TODAY.

YEAH. EVERYDAY UNTIL THE PERFOR-MANCE.

Yay! Yay!
Yay yay!

...HAS, THIS VERY MOMENT, ARRIVED IN VERSAILLES.

HANS AXEL VON FERSEN...

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN, YOUR MAJESTY?

THE ONE WHO SURPRISED US WITH HER TALENT WAS CHIBA-SAN.

I'M SO IN LOVE...

CHIBA-SAN IS SO COOL.

WHOA...

[Calendar February]

2月カレンダー

OK, LET'S BREAK FOR TEN MINUTES.

ONE MORE WEEK...

...LEFT.

21

WHERE'S MY HAND-KERCHIEF?

TAKATSUKI-KUN, YOU GOING TO THE BATHROOM, TOO?

I'LL GO WITH YOU.

Oh, THAT'S A SCARY FACE.

CITIZEN B HAS NOTHIN' TO DO. I'M BORED.

NO WAY, ARE YOU OK?

MY STOMACH HURTS.

...

SOME ASSHOLE, WHETHER HE TEASES ME OR NOT, MAKES IT HURT.

Are you OK?

MY PERIOD. CRAMPS.

Oh my!

OSCAR ...

I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR YOU.

HOW WILL I BE ABLE TO FEED MY POOR, SICK MOTHER?

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO...? WHAT SHOULD I DO?

MMMMHMPH...

Pff...

IF YOU DESIRE IT, I WOULD GIVE YOU MY VERY LIFE.

ANDRÉ ...

BWAHAHAA

QUIT LAUGHING EVERY TIME!

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?!

Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho!

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

SORRY. IT'S JUST...

SO...

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, TAKATSUKI!

WANT ME TO TELL YOU HOW TO GET BACK AT TAKA-TSUKI?

Hey!

WHA?

SUCK IT UP, DUDE.

it was too funny!

SHIT. THE WHOLE CLASS WAS LAUGHING AT ME!

NO, DON'T APOLOGIZE!

I'M SORRY THAT SHE HURT YOUR SON.

I'M SO SORRY!

NO, IT'S...

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D GO SO FAR AS TO HURT A GIRL.

I JUST KNOW THIS ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE HE WAS TEASING HER.

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TELL YOU HOW SORRY I AM.

YOU APOLO-GIZE TO YOSHINO-CHAN!

MA'AM, PLEASE CALM DOWN ...

SMACK!

DON'T YOU BLAME HER!

BUT, TAKA-TSUKI, SHE...

MORNING.

MORNING.

Oh, MAN...

Wah! WHAT HAPPENED, TAKATSUKI-KUN?!

WHAM

Wah!

Eek

Wah

BLOODY NOSE! BLOODY NOSE!

WHUH ...

SMM

Yikes!

THEY GOT INTO A FIGHT AND SENSEI SCOLDED THEM.

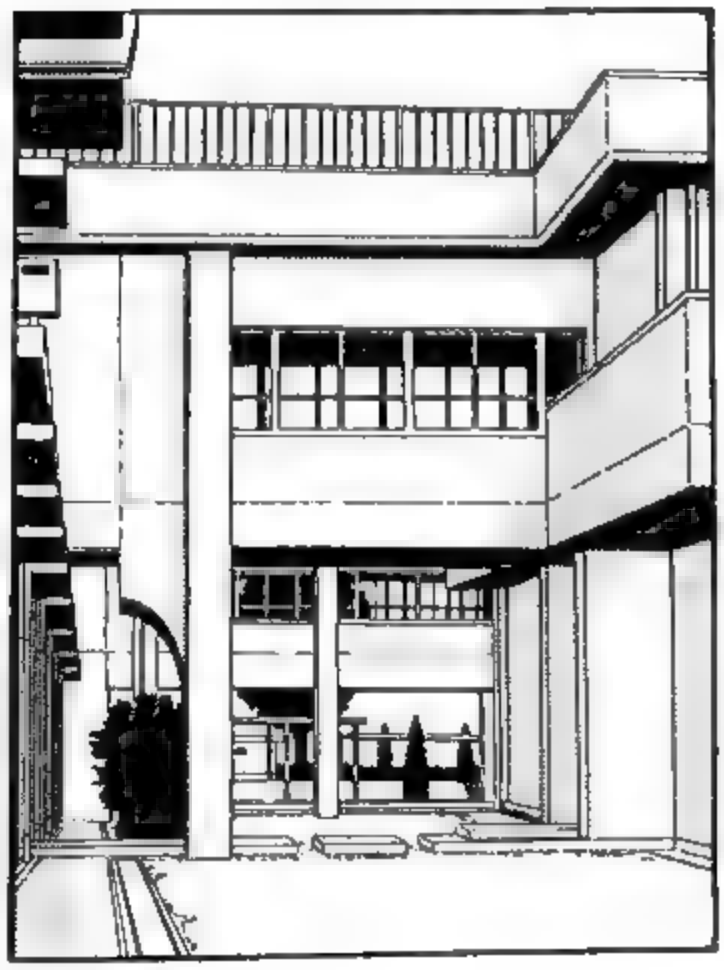
AIKAWA-KUN RELUCTANTLY KNUCKLED UNDER.

BUT EVEN SO, TAKATSUKI-SAN ABSOLUTELY WOULDN'T APOLOGIZE.

AND SO, THE DAYS WENT BY

SHE ABSO-LUTELY, ABSOLUTELY WOULDN'T APOLOGIZE.

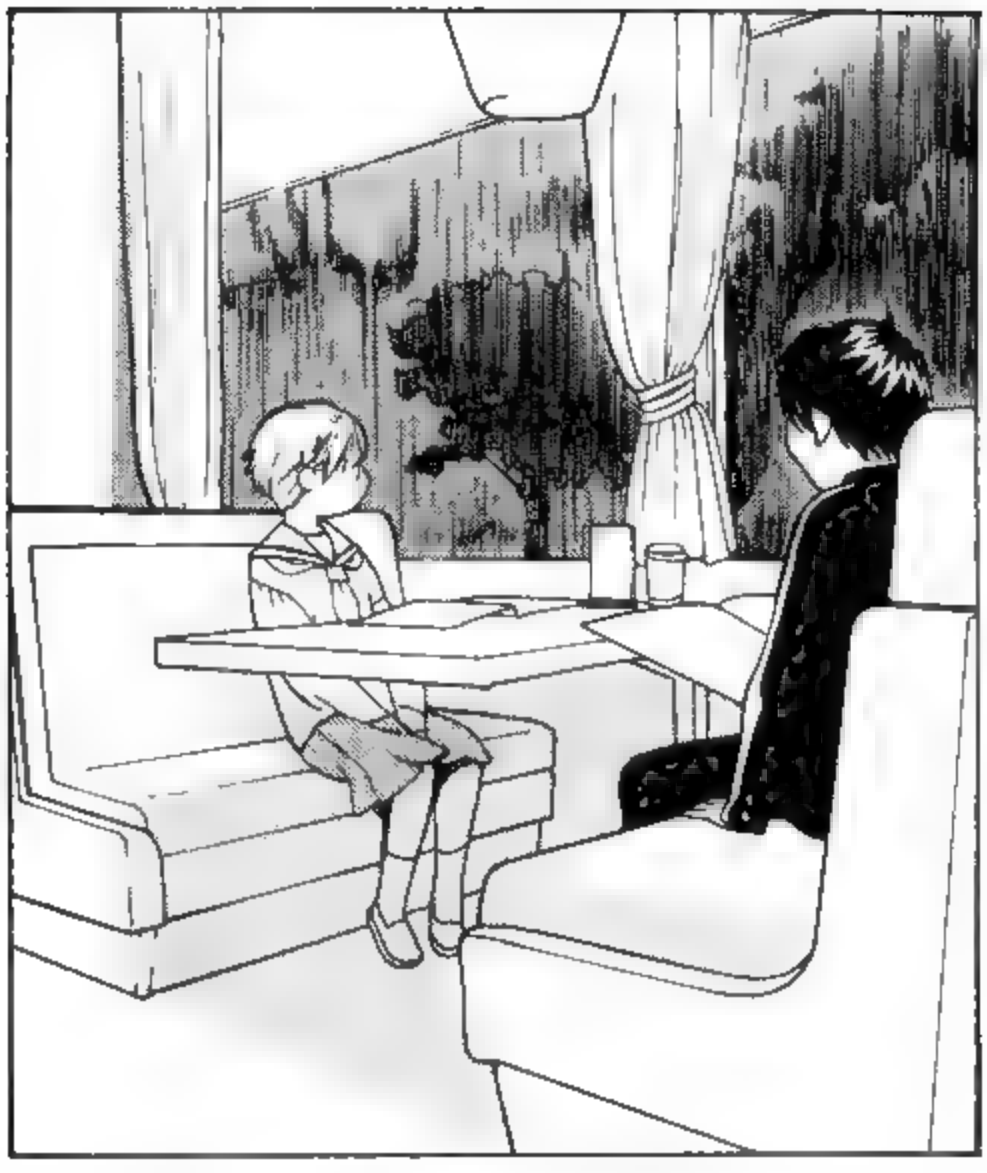
HE'S SUPER CUTE!
OHMYGAWD, I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED!
THAT'S HIM, RIGHT? MAHORIN'S LITTLE BROTHER?



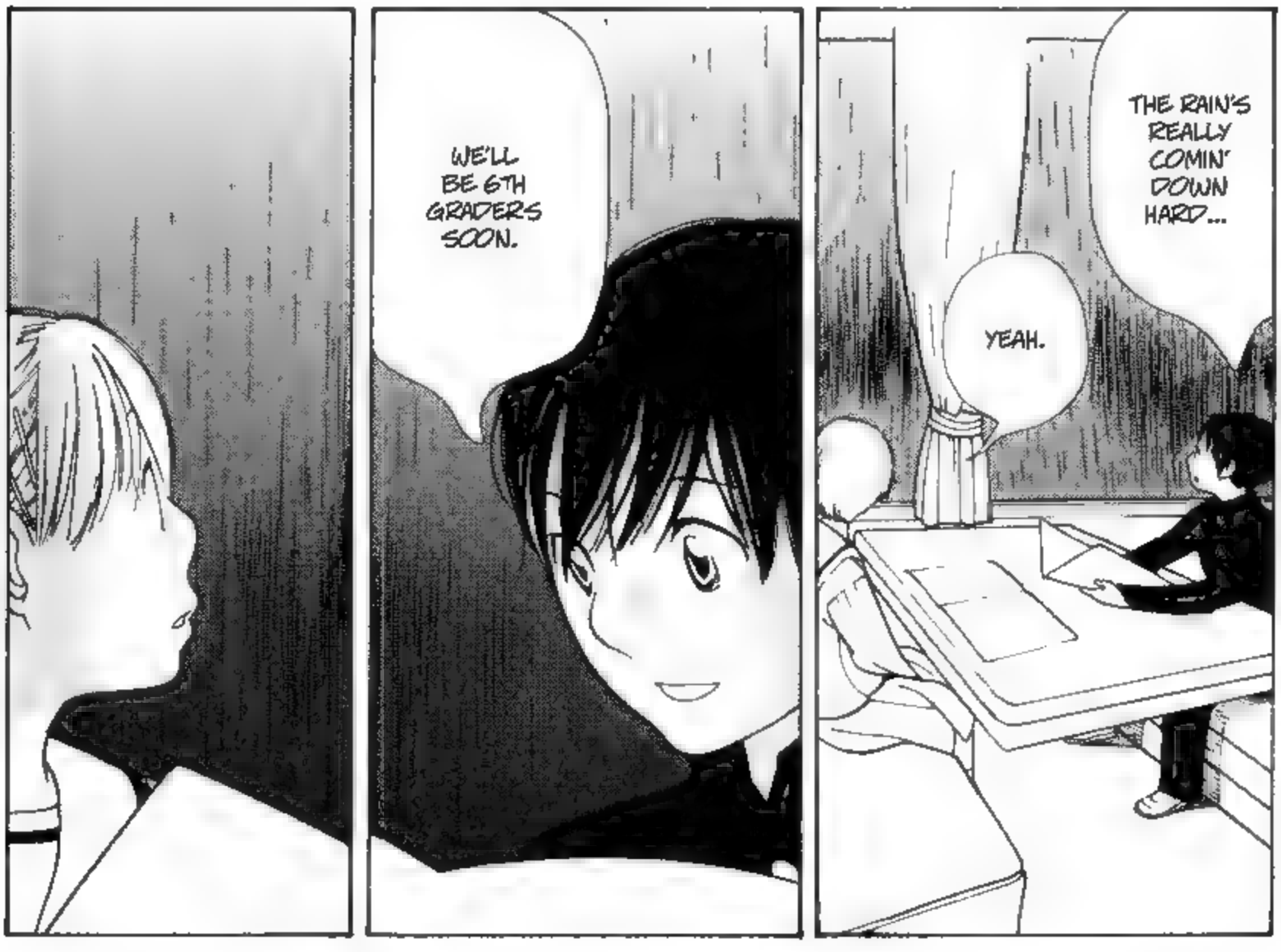
TAKATSUKI-SAN PLAYED ANDRÉ WITH A BLOOD-THIRSTY EDGE.

CHIBA-SAN'S FERSEN WAS DASHING.

NITORI-KUN'S ROSALIE WAS ADORABLE.



THE FAREWELL PARTY FOR THE 6TH GRADERS WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH.



Oh, GRANDMA?

IT'S MAHO.

NITORI-KUN, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF WE WERE REVERSED...

YOU WATCHING THIS?

NOPE.

EVERYONE SAID THE CLOTHES YOU SENT WERE CUTE!

YEAH.

YEAH, THE GRADUATION WAS GREAT.

OK, I'M GOING TO WATCH A LITTLE NEWS.

beep

I'LL SEND THE VIDEO, SO WATCH IT, 'KAY?

SHE SAID SHE'D SEND YOU A PRESENT, TOO.

HERE'S MOM...

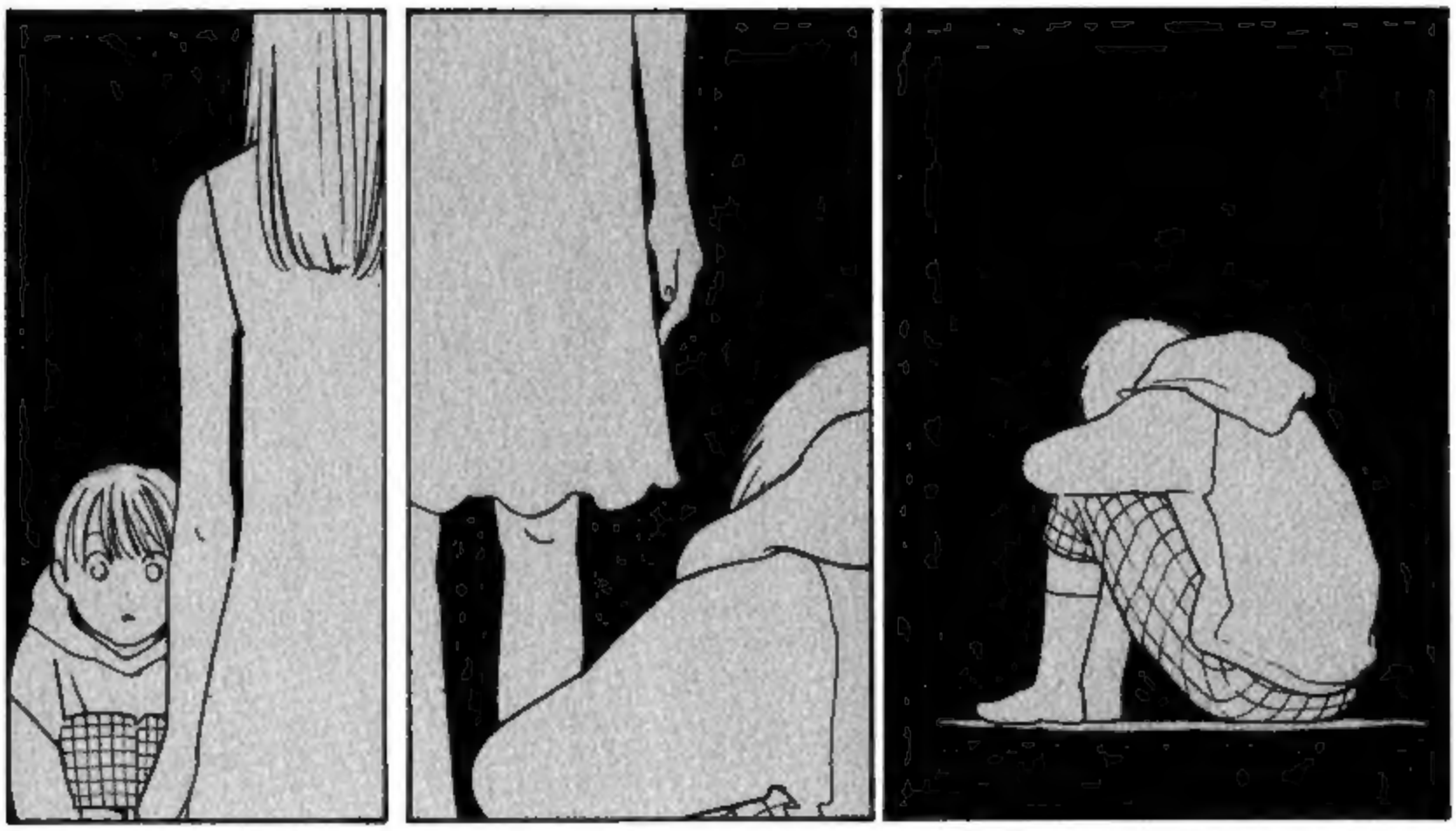
GOOD NIGHT.

GOOD NIGHT.

IT GOES BY SO FAST.

YEAH, ONE IN SIXTH GRADE AND ONE IN JUNIOR HIGH.

I WONDER WHAT SHE'S GONNA BUY ME?



THIS IS SOMETHING NOT EVEN GRANDMA CAN BUY ME.

← Afterword

Farewell Party

Aww, no way!

Sorry it's so sudden, but...

Sorry.

Eh, moving?

Well, this is our new home.

I'm jealous!

I can't believe him...

Thank you...

Everyone made these candies.

You better write! Promise?

I CAN'T STAND IT!

And there you have it, "Hourou Musuko" vol. 1. As always, I, Shimura Takako, draw a story where the characters don't look very different, the panels are too white, and everything has a heaping helping of pathos. For those who are familiar with my works, and for those who aren't, whether or not you continue to read them consumes my thoughts. Each time, the characters get smaller and more loli, as with the current work. Sorry!

July 2003, Shimura Takako

Special thanks to Ishide Den-sama
Thank you for everything!

That will be 472 yen.

If you buy that much, they'll get mad.

Me too.

I'm going to the corner store.

Watch out for cars.

This could have happened...

...and they might have just forgotten about it.

Geez!

Loan me 500 yen.

Welcome.

This took place right before the change of school...